MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY — JOPLIN

THE CHART

SQUEAKER

Women's basketball team pulls off last second win. *Page 11*

MORE THAN STARS

Local band Sevenstar strives to rock area venues with its original sound. *Page 6*

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2004 | WWW.THECHARTONLINE.COM | VOLUME 64, ISSUE NO. 18

Internet CHEATING

University students, administration address issue

BY MONIQUE JAMERSON
Staff Writer

Internet-based courses have been at Missouri Southern for five years, and the issue of cheating has surfaced.

One student, who admits to cheating on Internet courses, spoke under the condition of anonymity. The student is currently enrolled in two Internet courses and said she plans to take more.

"Cheating online has become easy to do because there are some professors who never know if their student has been cheating," she said.

The student gave an example of her cheating. One night she was visiting a friend and decided she didn't want to take a history quiz. She let her brother do it for her.

> *"If we don't police our Internet classes, Southern will get the reputation of a diploma mill."*
>
> **Dr. Larry Cebula**
> *Associate Professor of History*

"All my brother needed to know was my password," the student said.

The student said there are some classes where all quizzes and tests are on online.

"I am taking a course and we never have to go on campus for anything," the student said. "All of the quizzes and tests are on online."

Wade Utter, junior business administration major, said cheating is wrong and he has never taken part in it, but knows students who have.

"I know of students who have been offered material from Internet classes to use, but it has never happened to me," Utter said.

University President Julio León said faculty members are careful and concerned about Internet cheating.

"We try to minimize cheating as much as possible," León said. "But we must depend on the integrity and honesty of the students."

TURN TO **CHEATING** PAGE 8

Board votes to keep fees unchanged

BY T.J. GERLACH
Managing Editor

Student fees for the 2004-2005 academic year were decided at the Missouri Southern Board of Governors' Feb. 20 meeting.

University President Julio León said in past years the economic conditions of the state have forced the University to not make such decisions until late in the year.

Dr. Julio León
University President

"It is to [Southern's] advantage to make this decision as early as possible," León said.

He said students are saying, "Our pockets are hurting," and the administration believes it would be "desirable" to have "restraint" on fees this year. The administration recommended next year's fees remain the same as this year's.

The Board unanimously agreed, and 2004-2005's fees will remain at $127 per credit hour.

"That's good," said Dr. Charles McGinty, Board president. "I'm sure our students will appreciate that."

Also at the meeting, León said Gov. Bob Holden is recommending $20.3 million to be allotted for Southern next year. This is the same amount Holden recommended in 2003 before he withheld part of the funds.

"Right now there isn't much movement one way or the other [over the budget]," León said. "There is hope."

Debbie McCoy, partner at the accounting firm BKD LLP, Joplin, who audited Southern for the first time, presented the audit report to the Board.

At the meeting, Stacey Allen, student liaison to the Board, thanked the governors for allowing students to be able to participate in the selection of Southern's new vice president for academic affairs. McGinty also thanked the members of the Board who were able to attend those selection interviews.

Dr. Mark Comstock, accounting department chair and faculty liaison to the Board, said he recently attended a meeting of the Missouri Association of Faculty Senates in Jefferson City.

"We (MAFS) all agreed an investment in education is an investment in our state's future," Comstock said.

Dr. Betsy Griffin, interim vice president for academic affairs, said the University received approval for joint master's programs with Northwest Missouri State University. These programs would be in the fields of science and education.

Griffin also said Southern and Southwest Missouri State University are discussing a master's program in teaching. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 19.

DIE HARD FANS

Andy Tevis/The Chart

Missouri Southern fans cheer on the women's basketball team during the Café Del Rio Bordertown Battle against Pittsburg State University. The women won the Feb. 25 game making it their seventh-straight victory. For more on the Bordertown Battle see page 12.

University prepares annual celebration for famous Joplin poet

BY PHILIP MARTIN
Executive Editor

Langston Hughes makes a return to the place of his birth.

At 7 p.m. Friday, in Webster Hall Auditorium, Missouri Southern will be hosting its 12th annual Langston Hughes Celebration. Retired professor, Dr. Henry Morgan and Randy Brown, who was president of the Joplin chapter of NAACP at the time, started the celebration in 1992.

Dr. Doris Walters, professor of English, said Morgan and Brown wanted to start the celebration because Hughes was from Joplin, and he was a great African-American poet. Walters said the celebration is a way to inform students and community members about a famous author.

"I think almost all literary scholars would agree that he was one of the greatest poets of the 20th century," Walters said.

"To have a chance to increase one's knowledge and know something about Langston Hughes is beneficial, especially since it has a special and unique connection with Joplin."

Walters said the students would be able to get more out of the celebration than knowledge about Hughes.

"I think for one thing, besides learning something about Hughes, they're also going to be entertained," she said. "Music is a part of the event. We have a person who is performing some songs; we have a group of children reciting poetry. I think people will find it not only a learning experience, but they will be surprised by how much they like Hughes' poetry."

This year's celebration will feature Dr. Akiba Sullivan Harper, dean of undergraduate studies at Spelman College, as the main speaker. Harper's topic will be "Langston Hughes and Home." She said she thought it would be nice to speak on Hughes and home, since he was from Joplin.

"Hughes seemed to be clear about what home was and wasn't," Harper said. "Hughes said he could sleep anywhere. He said he slept in over 100 different places."

Harper was an editor for one of the volumes of the complete works of Hughes published by the University of Missouri Press during the centennial of Hughes' birth in 2002.

She has also written a book *Not So Simple: The "Simple" Stories of Langston Hughes*.

Harper said it will be the third time she will be at Southern for the celebration.

"It's been a good idea since the beginning," Harper said. "It seems to get better each time."

Harper said she enjoys the talent at the celebrations.

"The talent, the local talent, has been impressive," she said.

INSIDE THIS EDITION

Diversions.....6,7
International.....5
Jumps.....8,10
Public Forum.....4
Second Front.....3
Security.....2
Sports.....11,12
State.....9

WEEKEND OUTLOOK

SATURDAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 45
Low: 30

SUNDAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 52
Low: 36

ONLINE

Click on the online edition of *The Chart* at
www.thechartonline.com
We've got a new series of online columns.
Check out WEB BYTES.

Senate keeps to precedent

BY NATE BILLINGS
International Editor

Parliamentary procedure was kept to strict adherence during the Feb. 24 Student Senate meeting.

Senators volleyed back-and-forth in discussion during the half-hour session.

"It was a great meeting," said Zack Odem, Senate president.

Senate saw three organizations from old business come to the floor and request appropriations for various events.

Another organization, World Issues for Study by Educators, requested to have the Senate rules suspended to allow a first and second reading of WISE's request.

The Senate could not raise the two-thirds vote to allow the request.

"Senate followed procedure that each organization has a first and second reading," Odem said.

He said the Senate set the precedent that organizations cannot come to the meetings and simply request money at anytime the organization wants.

WISE was requesting money for an education-based conference in Washington D.C., during the week of March 1.

The organization's second reading will occur as scheduled during Wednesday's Senate meeting.

However, if no one from the organization can attend the meeting, the reading can be tabled until the group returns from its trip.

During the president's report, Odem announced the forming of another Senate-related organization across Missouri. The organization is called the Missouri Student Government Presidents.

The goals of the organization include getting higher education more priority in the state legislature, allowing student liaisons to vote in Board of Governors meetings and allowing for student organizations to have an easier time forming political discussions on campus grounds.

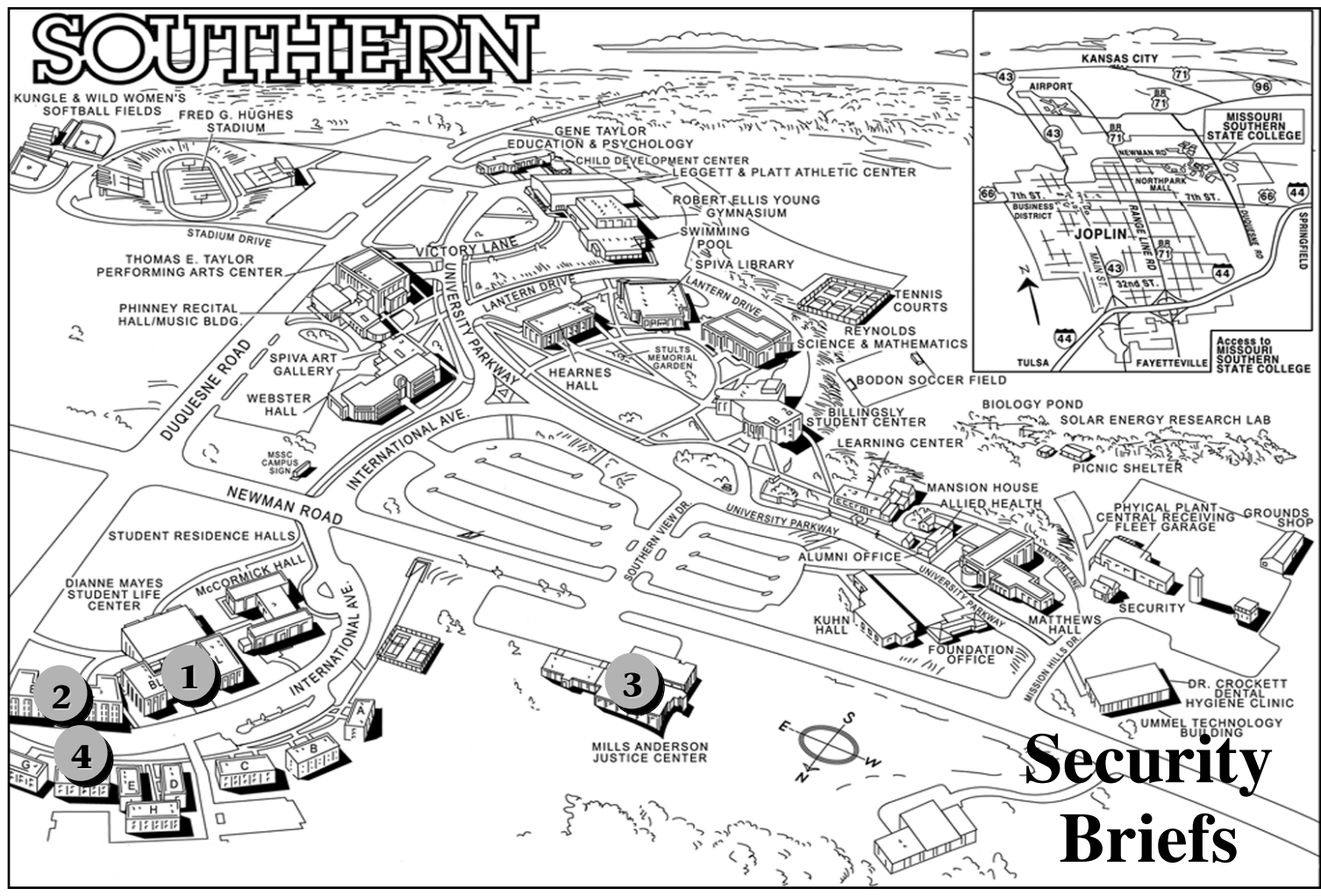
The official budget was given to Senate during the week. Before the meeting, Senate had an official total of $12,000 for the rest of the semester. The budget included appropriations already funded during the semester.

Senate saw three appropriations during the meeting.

The first organization to receive funding was Koinonia.

Eric Ducommon, sophomore Spanish major and Senate member, spoke for the organization.

TURN TO **SENATE**, PAGE 10



Security Briefs

Dumpster loses control, damages parked vehicle

1 Information

2/17/2004

11:30 p.m.

Security was notified by a resident director who stated there was an incident in progress at the residence hall. Upon arrival security contacted a male talking to a student adviser.

The male said his girlfriend had his television, and he was not going to give her her car keys until he got his TV. Security advised the student to return the keys or Joplin Police Department will be notified. He did so, but the car had been relocated to another parking lot.

2 Theft

2/18/2004

2:40 p.m.

Security was notified by a student stating his wallet was stolen. The student advised that he put his wallet on the table next to his bed the night before. When he woke up the next day it was missing.

His roommates were questioned, and neither had seen the wallet. One roommate had friends over, and none had gone into the bedroom. Security advised the student to make a report to the Joplin Police Department.

3 Information

2/19/2004

1 p.m.

Security received a call from two students who had witnessed another student looking at pornographic material in a computer lab.

The students advised security they had witnessed the same student looking at similar Web sites on different days. They said the student exposed himself.

Both the students identified the suspect separately from a photographic ID.

4 Property Destruction

2/19/2004

1:17 p.m.

Security was notified that a dumpster had blown into a parked car. When security arrived the dumpster was against the driver's side door.

There were dents and scratches to the driver's side rear passenger door and damage to the driver's side mirror. Security secured the dumpster to its post.

Security briefs are compiled from the Missouri Southern Department of Public Safety reports.

Campus Calendar

Debate squad heads to Madrid for international championships

The Missouri Southern Speech and Debate Squad competed in the Missouri Forensics Association state championships at the University of Missouri-Columbia. There were 35 debaters from 15 universities at the championships Feb. 20- 21.

At the tournament, Bonnie Leiby, senior speech communications/English major, was a semifinalist. Eric Crinnian, freshman undecided major, won the Lincoln-Douglas debate state title and was named top speaker in LD. Jason Edgar, senior speech communication major, was state runner-up in LD debate and was named second speaker behind Crinnian. Jeff Dugdale, senior CIS-information systems/Spanish major, and Edgar placed fifth in duo interpretation during the competition.

March 12-18 the squad heads to Madrid, Spain, to compete in the International Forensics Association championships.

Job Expo enlightens students about employment possibilities

Missouri Southern is hosting its annual Spring Job Expo 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Wednesday on the third floor of Billingsly Student Center.

The theme of the expo is "Paint Yourself a Bright Future!"

Local and national employers are registered to attend.

This event provides an opportunity for students and alumni to learn more about full-time employment, internships, summer and part-time jobs, as well as graduate and professional educational programs.

A listing of employers registered to be at the event can be found at www.mssu.edu/career.

For information call Career Services at 625-9343.

Student Support Center brings presenter to talk about anorexia

Nationally known comedian and presenter Michelle Garb will be speaking on "Fat Brain/Skinny Body" on two occasions Monday.

The first occasion is from noon-1 p.m. on the third floor of Billingsly Student Center and is scheduled to be a luncheon. The second occasion is at 7 p.m in Webster Hall Auditorium.

Garb is a recovered anorexic who has traveled cross country as a comedienne talking about the problems of eating disorders.

Also on Monday, the student support center is hosting the Listen to Your Body Fair in the second floor lounge of BSC. The fair will be held from 10:30 a.m.-noon and 1 p.m.-2:30 p.m. Students can participate in different areas that include a free massage, yoga, power nap, draw your body and mirror/mirror on the wall. Students can sign up for prizes to be given away throughout the day.

CJSA spices up Justice Center with annual chili cook-off, feed

The Criminal Justice Student Association is hosting its annual chili cook-off and feed from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesday. Chili can still be entered in the contest. Those who enter their chili in the contest will be able to eat for free, and there is no fee to enter the contest.

The cost for those wishing to eat, but not entering the contest is $4.

The ticket provides a drink and an all-you-can eat chili dinner.

All proceeds go to the Gateway school in Joplin. First place is $100, second is $75 and third is $50 Door prizes will be given away.

For information, call Mike Hulderman, CJSA faculty adviser at 625-9519 or by e-mail at hulderman-m@mssu.edu.

Faculty, staff learn about ruins during next Brown Bag Lunch

The next Brown Bag Lunch will be at 12:10 p.m. Friday in Billingsly Student Center, Room 310.

The presenters for this week will be Sam Claussen, associate professor of theatre, and Dr. Conrad Gubera, professor of sociology. Claussen and Gubera's topic will be "Mayan Ruins of Copan."

The lunch is free. Persons may pick up their lunch outside of BSC-310.

The next Brown Bag Lunch will be March 26. The presenter will be Dr. Brad Kleindl, associate professor of business. The presentation will be "Senior Fulbright Scholar Experience."

The presentation after Kleindl's will be April 2. The presenters will be Alex Pinkston, associate professor of theatre; Bud Clark, assistant professor of music; and CeCie Fritz. They will be performing musical selections from Cole Porter's *Kiss Me Kate.*

For information, contact Beverly Block at 625-9555 or by e-mail at block-b@mssu.edu.

Sigma Tau Delta raises funds through selling books, body art

On Friday, Sigma Tau Delta will be hosting a book sale on the second floor of Billingsly Student Center.

There will be censorship T-shirts and henna body art for sale, along with books.

Free BillPay
+ Electronic Statements
+ Check Images Online
More Time, Less Paperwork
Jenna does her banking in a flash with the Arvest e.Club account.
What will you do with your time?
arvest.com
ARVEST
Member FDIC

Missouri Southern students, faculty & staff:

Stop by Chick-fil-a of Northpark Mall to receive your 10% discount.

Chick-fil-A®

We Didn't Invent The Chicken, Just The Chicken Sandwich
www.chick-fil-a.com

McCready Recording Studio

Rich McCready
owner/artist

**Looking for professional sound?
Let us bring your music to life.
Experience the best in sound production in our state-of-the-art studio!**

- 8 isolation rooms, 6 with visibility
- 120 channels of automation
- Comfortable lounge
- Inspiring songwriters room
- Furnished overnight bungalow
- Warm, noise-free, editable digital sound
- High speed duplication, labels, inserts
- Musicians, writers, production available

Rock, Country, Folk, Gospel, Rap, Metal, Jazz, Blues, Pop, Classical

Enter the exciting and creative world of sound production at McCready Recording Studio

Call for a tour today!

21859 Crow Rd.
Seneca, MO 64865
Phone: 417 775-2969
Fax: 417 775-2931
E-mail: Mstudio@netins.net

SMB Southwest Missouri Bank

Cash on Campus
ATM in Billingsly Student Center

FREE Checking
with FREE bounce protection

Convenience
2 full service banking facilities within 1 mile of the campus

623.5959 7th & Duquesne

FDIC

206.6800 Range Line & Zora

Joplin ● Carthage ● Duquesne ● Neosho ● Alba ● Jasper

Model United Nations debates in St. Louis

BY JESSICA MACINTOSH
Online Editor

Learning about a country does not necessarily require traveling far.

The Midwest Model United Nations met Feb. 18-21 in St. Louis to debate international issues.

"It's a simulation of the proceedings of the real U.N.," said Dr. Paul Teverow, professor of history. "The one we attended last week is strictly collegiate ... in which students from various colleges and universities play the roles of U.N. member states."

Teverow said Model United Nations has been at Southern since about the 1970s.

"We've been participating continuously since 1985," Teverow said.

The goals of Model United Nations at the University play a part with the international mission.

"First of all, at any Model United Nations conference, you debate important issues that are actually going on in the world," Teverow said. "Whether you do it through the U.N., some international body is going to have to address it. No one nation can solve it on its own."

With Model United Nations, the members have to try to not only solve the international issues but also look at them from other perspectives.

"You have to figure out 'What would I personally have done? Not what would be in the best interest of the United States, but if I were a delegate for this country, given what their government stands for, given what we know about this country's economy, about its people, about its history: what would they consider to be the best interest to these problems?'" Teverow said.

At the conference, eight Southern students represented Israel, and one represented Afghanistan.

"There was a spot open on the Historical Security Council," said Carolyn Staat, senior middle school education major. "We had the option to send someone; MMUN told us it was a new simulation."

Staat participated in the third committee, dealing with the implementation of the millennium development goals.

"I love to deal with international issues," Staat said. "In the end, it ends up dealing with my major."

During the conference, Sarah Godsey, senior Spanish and international studies major, debated the issues in the second committee on the role of subsidies in the Global Training System.

"I had a good time," Godsey said. "It

TURN TO **NATIONS**, PAGE 10

File Photo

Sgt. Greg Francis, JPD, stands outside a barrier on Oct. 2, 1991, in front of the Fastrip at 1204 N. Duquesne Rd. where Lucinda J. Adams was murdered.

Joplin detective takes fresh look at 12-year-old murder case

BY JERRY MANTER
Editor-in-Chief

If there's one thing that frustrates Joplin Police detectives more than anything, it's the unsolved murder.

Why? It just rarely happens.

"Joplin has very few homicides that go unsolved," said Brady Stuart, JPD detective. "It's very rare."

Stuart is now the lead detective for the Fastrip homicide case, which has gone unsolved for more than 12 years.

In the early hours of Oct. 2, 1991, Lucinda J. Adams, a Fastrip employee, was found dead in the convenience store at 1204 N. Duquesne Rd., located behind Missouri Southern's residence halls. No suspect has been named for the murder.

Stuart is trying to get the word out about the unsolved homicide in hopes that someone with the University has information regarding the case.

"Relationships change," Stuart said. "There may be an ex-girlfriend or boyfriend who might know something."

Stuart, a forgery investigator with the JPD for four years, doesn't have a great deal of time to concentrate on the case. Much of the investigating occurs on days off and at home.

"Our case loads are extremely heavy," he said. "If I have time, I try to do a follow up."

Brady Stuart
Joplin Police Detective

Although Stuart is unable to concentrate completely on the homicide case, he is optimistic a strong lead will arise. After *The Joplin Globe* published two articles about Stuart and his efforts in the case, three strong leads were brought to his attention. Investigators once followed a lead that took them to Colorado.

"Investigators waste no expense in following leads," he said.

With the recent media attention, he's hoping to find an unknown individual who may have some information regarding the case. A person was seen eating inside the convenience store around 2 a.m. the morning of the homicide. At 2:17 a.m., money was taken out of the store register. The person is described as a medium-sized male and was in his mid-20s at the time of the crime.

"He might have been the last person to talk with her," he said. "I'd be interested in talking with him."

Chad Hayworth, assistant city editor of the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* in Springdale, was an assistant editor of *The Chart* at the time of the homicide and covered the crime.

"I had no idea it was still unsolved," Hayworth said.

Hayworth recalls going to the residence halls for student reaction.

"Most students were surprised and didn't know about it," Hayworth said. "Many weren't all that concerned."

He said the incident was a big story for Southern and the community.

"In Joplin,+ a murder is a big deal," he said. "It's not an everyday experience."

A better description of the individual eating inside the store and a better understanding of the crime may have been available if video surveillance was used. The day of the crime, however, the surveillance system was either not working or was not being used at the time.

Stuart came to Southern to read stories published by *The Chart*. One story was published the day after the crime and another published at the 10-year anniversary. Although he said investigators did an excellent job with the initial investigation, he still wanted to read the articles to see if anything "catches his eye."

One thing did.

"The article says that the back door was opened," he said. "Maybe I

TURN TO **MURDER**, PAGE 10

University graduate returns to recruit prospective students

BY PHILIP MARTIN
Executive Editor

Like the military, Missouri Southern enjoys getting new recruits.

To help recruit new students, Southern has a new recruiter, Sarah Cunningham.

Cunningham, who graduated in May 2003 with a degree in communications, said she enjoys her job.

"I love it," Cunningham said. "It's great."

She said the one part of her job she enjoys the most is talking to prospective students about Southern.

"I loved my time at Southern," she said. "I'm able to tell them (the prospects) about it. I always tell [the students] about my time here."

Other aspects of her job she enjoys is the chance to travel and meet with high school students who are trying to figure out where to go for college.

She said the students are "excited and inquisitive" about the University. One of the questions she gets asked a lot is if there is anything to do on campus. Cunningham tells the students "there are always fun things happening."

Cunningham recruits students from Oklahoma, Arkansas and Kansas, as well as some schools within Missouri.

She said she always wanted to get a job on a college campus.

Nancy Hight-Morris/The Chart

Sarah Cunningham, admissions recruiter, graduated from Southern in May 2003 and now works in the admissions office.

"I've always been interested in recruiting, and I wanted to work on a college campus," Cunningham said. "I found out about it (the job) through networking. I checked the Internet once a month for jobs on different campuses."

Derek Skaggs, director of enrollment services, said he is glad Cunningham is a recruiter because she is able to relate to how incoming freshmen feel because of her time at Southern.

"[Cunningham] worked in the student support center, also with Freshman Orientation," Skaggs said. "She knows a lot about the school. With her work experience here, she is familiar with issues incoming first-time freshmen encounter."

Skaggs said there are three skills Cunningham possesses that make her a good recruiter: strong communication skills, she was active in Fresh Start and her love of the University.

"These three skills make her a standout for a recruiter of admissions," Skaggs said. "She bleeds green and gold; we're glad to have her here."

Cunningham said she is not for sure if this is where she will spend her whole career, but she'll "be here for a while."

Job expo presents options

BY WINTER WHITE
Staff Writer

Cap and gown orders are in, and announcements are on their way as Missouri Southern seniors gear up for graduation.

Among the excitement, students make decisions about what to do post-commencement.

To assist in transition, the University's career services department is in full-swing with plans for students to help prepare for their upcoming job search. The itinerary for the next few months includes hosting on-campus interviews, an Education Job Fair, a mock interview day, the Spring Job Expo Wednesday and a Résumé-O-Rama event scheduled for Friday, Monday and Tuesday to help students prepare and critique their résumés.

Patricia Hurley, director of career services, aims to help provide information and support for students entering the job market.

"We make sure we are available, to be ready to help them," Hurley said.

She recommends students attend the Spring Job Expo and come prepared to meet with prospective employers.

"Start early, dress professionally, if you're looking for a full-time job; for internships, a casual business dress is expected, and bring a résumé," she said.

Hurley said students often make a common mistake when interviewing.

"Research the company so it can be an exchange of information to evaluate the match," she said.

Additional services available through career services include: keeping graduate credentials on file for prospective employers recruiting from the University and the Southern Job Network, a forum for students and faculty to post their résumés for employers to view.

While most students will be entering the job market, others seek to postpone the job search and continue their education.

Marie-Pierre Astry, senior international business major, has post-graduate plans.

"In France, all of us get a B.S." Astry said. "It's really common there. So, to be competitive, people from a public school usually get a master's."

However, Astry does seem satisfied with her work at Southern.

"I am pretty proud of this," she said. "I feel good about what I've done here. My professors say that being at Southern is a good thing."

Astry is not alone. The number of students choosing to attend a graduate program is on the rise.

Angela Wilson, graduate recruiter for the University of Arkansas, said the competition is tough among candidates.

"The law school saw an increase of applicants of about 50-60 percent over last year," Wilson said. "We want students to think about why they want to go to graduate school. Not being able to find a job is not a good enough reason."

Wilson will be attending the Spring Job Expo on Wednesday and speaking to students about their qualifications to help them determine if graduate school is a viable option.

Editor's Column

Close your brain to an open mind

Nate Billings
International Editor

This open-minded bull has to stop. Stubborn and closed-minded is the way to be.

"Why?" one may ask. Well, I'll tell him or her why. I have an opinion. I am me, myself and I, to borrow a phrase. I want to judge things against what I believe to be true.

If I did not, I would be an empty-headed imbecile. I don't pretend to be smarter than anyone else, so don't get me wrong.

I simply believe there is more to life than allowing everyone to influence your ideas — to get into your head. And, I believe this goes for education too.

I see signs that say, "A mind is like a parachute, it has to be open to work." Bull, the mind works closed too.

Think about it. If I completely opened my mind, I'd have to let everything in and everything out equally. There'd be no defining factor as to what ideas make a person different. I would have no judgement of my own because there is nothing for me to back an opinion inside my head.

If my head was a house and my ears were doors, one door would be closed so that I can at least keep what I want in and throw the trash out when I clean up.

Therefore, some closed-mindedness is quite useful.

Everyone has a background, a life, a context, a culture. These items are the things that make us who we are. Yet, I still hear people telling others to open their minds and be accepting to all things and therefore trying to take away a perfectly good identity, usually unintentionally.

What would the world be like if nothing was held to a criteria? It would be a world lost in chaos and pain. If one wants to throw insult, then "narrow-minded" is the term to use, not closed-minded.

Narrow-mindedness means that a person is only open to the ideas he or she holds true. This type of person won't consider an idea. A closed-minded person will at least think when an idea is presented.

Oh, this brings up the point that open and closed are not necessarily opposites in this case.

Accepting and open are also quite different. I can accept a person for who they are, but I can still not be "open" to their ideas.

I can hold an idea to a standard, I just have to accept that the person whose idea I am considering is also accepting of me and also judges my opinion in light of his or her own.

That's the genius of our lives. We can be rational and happy with each other without being bubble-headed, open-minded fools.

Nate Billings is the International Editor of The Chart. *His opinions are his own and don't necessarily reflect those of* The Chart *staff.*

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY — JOPLIN

THE CHART

3950 E. Newman Road, Joplin, Mo. 64801-1595

JERRY MANTER **Editor-in-Chief**
PHILIP MARTIN **Executive Editor**
T.J. GERLACH **Managing Editor**
ANDY TEVIS **Director of Photography**
DAVID HAUT **Public Forum Editor**
MELISSA DUNSON **Diversions Editor**
NATE BILLINGS **International Editor**
RUSS HAGERMAN **Sports Editor**
KARENA WELLS **State Editor**
JESSICA MACINTOSH **Online Editor**
JACOB WEST **Advertising Manager**
RANDALL GEORGES **Advertising Design Manager**
RHONDA CLARK **Publications Manager**
DR. CHAD STEBBINS **Adviser**

Editorial Staff Members: Brandi Boulware, Jeremiah Cook, Adam Fast, Nancy Hight-Morris, Monique Jamerson, Jim Kesinger, Winter White, Debby Woodworth.

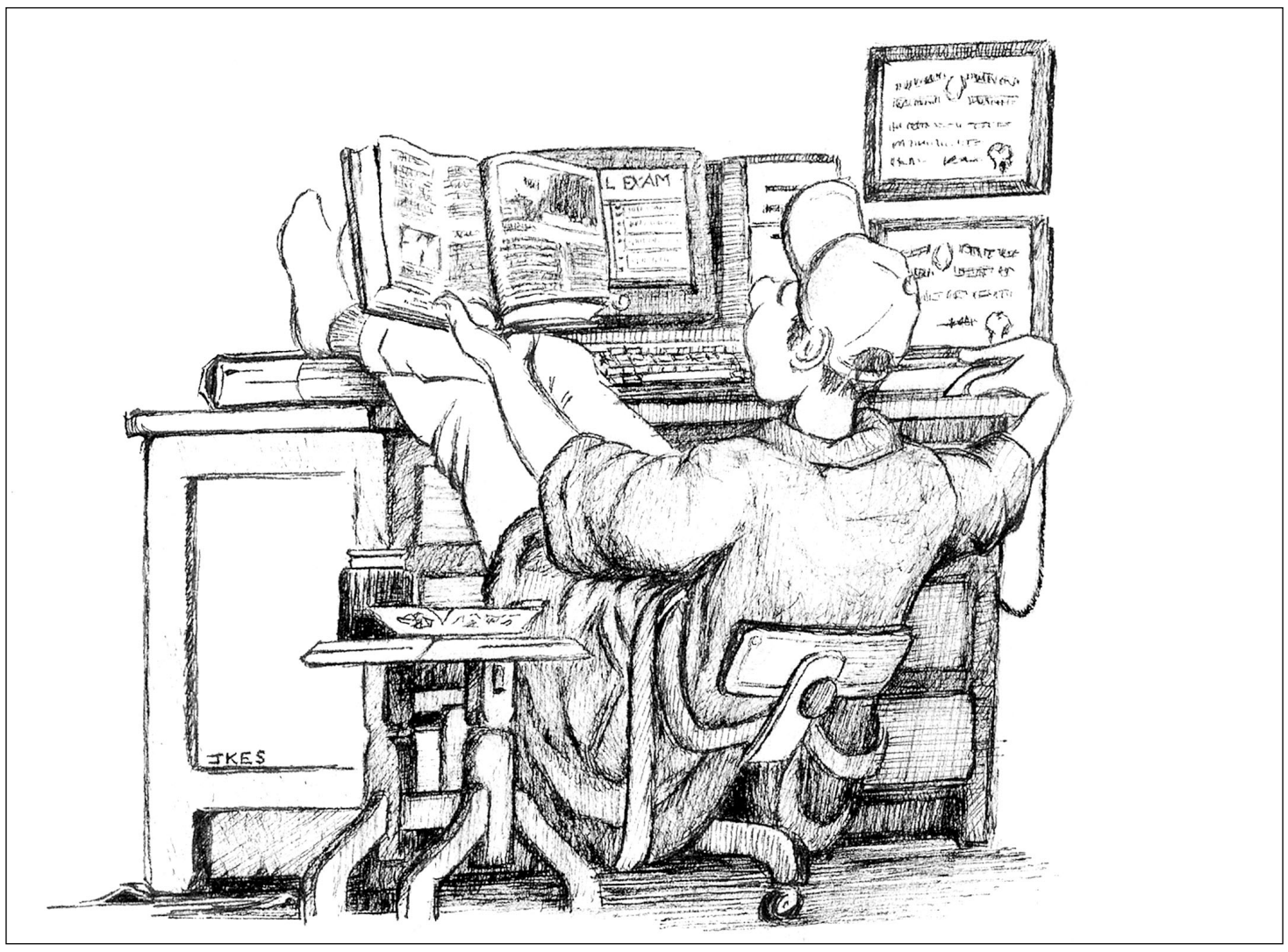
Advertising Staff Members: Pam Martin, Shelley Bishop.

The Chart, the newspaper of Missouri Southern State University-Joplin, is published weekly, except during holidays and examination periods, from August through May by students in communications as a laboratory experience. Views expressed do not represent the opinions of the administration, faculty or the student body.

Jim Kesinger is the staff cartoonist for The Chart.
His opinions are his own and don't necessarily reflect those of the entire staff.

Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the editor must be signed originals and include the writer's address and phone number for verification, as well as class rank and major. Letters should not exceed 300 words. *The Chart* reserves the right to edit or refuse letters on the basis of length, clarity, accuracy and liability. Letters will be chosen for publication by *The Chart* editors according to space considerations.



Cheaters will not prosper

Chart Opinion

Students at Missouri Southern need a change of motivation. We are taking classes on the Internet not to learn, but for an easy "A." We all know how easy it is to cheat while taking a class on the Internet.

Many of us have done it. In fact, the Internet has made it way too easy to cheat on the Internet. But do we attend this University just to get an easy "A?" How much does one really learn while cheating on the Internet? Nothing.

Sure, we can cheat on the Internet. But what would happen if a future employer asks you about a certain subject you took on the Internet and cheated on? Would you know the answer? Chances are, you wouldn't.

Cheating downplays the credibility of our University. By giving students credit for work they didn't do, our University becomes little more than a "diploma factory." Missouri Southern will be synomonous with easy diplomas.

We learned at a young age that honesty is the best policy.

Shouldn't that apply even for the classes online? Cheating, in the long run, does not go far in life. Eventually a lie will have to be told to keep up with the cheating.

Imagine a future full of past cheaters. Things do not get done because no one knows how.

Students should show a little integrity. Their education is on the line. Is it really worth sacrificing your entire college career over an Internet class?

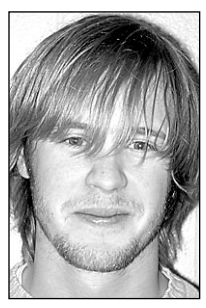
Cheaters never prosper, in cyberspace or in real life. Just remember you are not cheating the instructor; you are only cheating yourself.

Campus Voice BY NANCY HIGHT-MORRIS

How do you feel about students cheating in online classes?

"Personally, there should be no Internet exams or quizzes, because people are known to cheat quite a bit more that way, by cutting and pasting."

Parab'hat Mishra
Senior
CIS
Major



"People should be able to use whatever resources are available as long as they paraphrase and site their sources."

Jonathan Maddy
Sophomore
Undecided
Major

"Technically, it's wrong, but people do things to get ahead in life and always will."

Amanda Chandler
Freshman
Business
Major

"It's totally wrong. People should think by themselves without cheating, because by cheating they graduate without having the knowledge they need."

Kim LaFevre
Freshman
Early Childhood
Education Major

"Online cheating is wrong. You're not supposed to know the questions and answers before taking a test. The only way to not cheat on a test is by having them in the computer lab with the teacher watching."

Keith Fleischer
Freshman
Criminal Justice
Major

In Perspective

Missouri Southern doing well; still needs improvements

Missouri Southern is an institution that I believe in. Much of the past four years of my life has been devoted to Southern, working either as a student in the classroom or as a leader on campus.

This is my final semester at Southern, therefore, I think it is appropriate to take a few moments to reflect on what I believe Southern is doing well and what Southern should change.

What Southern is doing well: I think Southern has numerous positive attributes that many students take for granted. The first is that Southern is a university that focuses on undergraduate education. This focus allows undergraduate students to gain greater experience and enjoy closer attention by professors who, at other universities, may only be teaching graduate and doctoral classes.

At Southern all classes are taught by experts in their field. Rather than graduate students at schools whose focus is research, undergraduates at Southern are the focus of the institution.

Zack Odem
Student Senate
President

Next, Southern is a school that is leading in the area of online classes While I don't personally believe cyber-universities will ever replace brick-and-mortar schools, I do think that more students will enroll and participate in Web-based education.

As a result, Southern is positioning itself to succeed in this new and ever-changing aspect of education.

Finally, Southern is a university where teaching is the number-one priority. Southern is not a party school or a school where the faculty only see the students at graduation. At Southern, the faculty members are teaching the students and the students are getting an education, not just hazy memories of wild weekends.

Conversely, Southern has certain areas in which I believe changes must be made to keep up with competing universities. First, Southern must realize that all students should be treated with respect from the academic offices (instructors and schools) and support offices (business, Registrar's, etc.) at our University.

Why? It is simple. The student is the customer, and the University is the business. In order for the University to keep its doors open it must have students and provide these students with good customer service. Saying that Southern is not in competition with the University of Arkansas or Pittsburg State University is not good enough anymore.

Students expect the offices at Southern to be run in a professional manner by knowledgeable personnel who will help students.

Additionally, the University must do a better job recruiting students. This involves not only putting more resources into the recruitment process (using students and professionals), but also continuing to raise admission standards so that students who are admitted have the skills necessary to earn a bachelor's degree in a reasonable amount of time.

I am not saying that Southern should attempt to become the Harvard of the Midwest, but the University should only admit students who have the ability to succeed. College is not a right, rather it is a privilege.

Finally, Southern must offer its students more than just a classroom experience. I urge the students and the administration to approve and build the discussed wellness and recreation center. This facility would dramatically improve the quality of life at Southern (for both on-campus and commuter students); it would also increase retention and graduation rates.

Please, do not wait on this project.

In closing, I would like to say that I have enjoyed my time spent at Southern and as the student body president. I have been blessed by the people I have met and the experiences I have had.

For that, I am grateful.

Peaceful workers ask for volunteers

BY NATE BILLINGS
International Editor

Helping out other cultures is what the Peace Corps is about.

Two recruiters from the organization will come from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday to Missouri Southern.

During the day, they will visit classrooms in different departments.

When the recruiters are not in the classrooms, they will be at an information booth in the Billingsly Student Center.

From 4-6 p.m., they will hold a general information meeting in the BSC, Room 313.

Jamie Diatta, recruiter with the Chicago regional Peace Corps, will attend the Career Fair on Wednesday.

Dr. Chad Stebbins, director of the Institute of International Studies, helped plan the day.

"It's important that our students be aware that this opportunity exists," Stebbins said.

He said the Corps has not visited the campus in recent memory.

Also, a similar day was planned for the Spring semester of 2003 semester, but due to snow, the University canceled classes.

"I hope the students gain an understanding of what a viable option it (the Corps) is for college graduates," Diatta said.

She said the classroom visits will be short, only five to 10 minutes in length.

Each visit will focus on the specialty of the class which the recruiters are visiting.

"It's not for everyone, but it will appeal to a few people," Stebbins said.

Some students would agree.

"I'd say our school population is mixed very well," said Christopher St. John, sophomore English major.

"I think they'll (the recruiters) find someone here willing to volunteer."

St. John said though he would not volunteer in the Corps himself; he said he respects what the Corps does.

Other students agree with St. John.

"It's a possible opportunity for Missouri Southern students to help other people and see the world," said Adree Anderson, sophomore biology major.

Anderson and St. John said they did not know many details about the Corps, but thought the information session will be helpful.

"We're a university that promotes international education and travel," Anderson said. "I think it (the Corps) fits our goals,"

The recruiters invited Dr. Allen Merriam, professor of communications, to the information session. Merriam is a former Peace Corps volunteer.

The session will also include a video with information on the volunteers.

"It (the video) gives you a realistic idea of what it is like to be a volunteer," Diatta said.

All students are welcome to attend the information meeting.

Juniors and seniors interested in interviewing on March 5 at Southwest Missouri State University for the Corps can schedule an appointment with a recruiter by contacting Diatta at 800-424-8580, option 1. Students can also visit www.peacecorps.gov.

Nancy Hight-Morris/ The Chart

While studying in the United States, Christian Raska, junior international studies major, has met many people and is thankful for the support of his host families. Raska also enjoys flying planes with the friends he met while in Lodi, Ohio.

Student finds 'friendly' help

BY NATE BILLINGS
International Editor

Humble homes can help one cure culture shock.

Christian Raska, junior international studies major from Magdburg, Germany, is thankful for the friends he has met while in the United States.

Raska came to the United States as a senior in high school.

He said his coming here was not entirely planned beforehand.

"I was in school in Germany and saw an advertisement for a student exchange program," he said.

Raska requested information for the program and, he said after he received the information, he was soon enrolled in a course.

The program brought him to Lodi, Ohio. There, he attended and graduated from the local high school.

He applied to several colleges and after he was accepted, came to Missouri Southern.

Raska said the schools are different in Germany.

He said there, the universities are harder to get into, but once students are in, they do not have to worry about paying tuition as it is free to go.

"You only have to worry about studying," he said.

Raska has several interests and flying is among the things he has come to love while in the United States.

His host family and other friends in Lodi are helping him gain his pilot's license.

One friend let Raska fly as a co-pilot in a small-plane trip from Ohio to Florida.

"It was such a wonderful experience," Raska said.

He said the friends and host families in his life made his international experience worthwhile.

"It takes something special," he said. "I am so lucky in meeting people."

Jessica Koch, junior international studies major, is a friend of Raska's.

"He's amazingly intelligent," she said. "He has opened my eyes to all the opportunities that are out there."

Koch and Raska have been to several different events together in the local area since their initial meeting at the German Club's "Fall of the Wall."

"We've had some unique international cultural experiences," Koch said.

The pair has also attended a celebration of a Scottish poet in Springfield.

"I think that people should know that you can expect great things from him (Raska)," Koch said.

Others agree.

"He never makes excuses to fail, but to succeed," said Michael Cavitt, sophomore communications major.

Cavitt, Koch and Raska talk often in the halls.

After his graduation from the University, Raska said he is looking into going to graduate school in Amsterdam or Hawaii.

SOUTHERN LIFELONG LEARNING

Eight-week Courses

ENROLL NOW!

You can enroll in these courses anytime between now and the first day of classes, March 8. They are on video tape (VHS) and are to be completed by May 10. All lectures are contained on these tapes, students must have a VCR and access to the Internet. Tapes may be picked up in WH #116, or the student can contact Wiseman-N@mssu.edu with their correct mailing address and the tapes will be mailed. **Note: Financial Aid may not be available for these courses.**

Line #7111 **Math 20: Beginning Algebra** **3 cr hrs**
Instructor: Patrick Cassens (Cassens-P@mssu.edu)
Operations on signed numbers, linear equations and inequalities, systems of linear equations, polynomial arithmetic. Students are required to have a computer with Internet access with the same requirements published for Internet courses. Exams will require students to come to campus or arrange for a proctor.

Line #7112 **Phys 100: Fundamentals of Physical Science** **5 cr hrs**
Instructor: John Summerfield (Summerfield-J@mssu.edu)
Basic concepts in the fields of physics, chemistry, geology, and astronomy will be presented as time permits. Prerequisite: MATH 030 with a grade of "C" or better. Exams will require students to come to campus or arrange a proctor.

Line #7113 **Psy 120: College Orientation** **1 cr hr**
Instructor: Kelly Wilson (Wilson-K@mssu.edu)
A requirement for all incoming freshmen. Provides a small group setting for open communication between students in an informal situation. Students are required to have a computer with Internet access with the same requirements published for Internet course, and a word processor, prefer Microsoft Word. All work is through the Internet including exams.

Line #7114 **TH 110: Theatre Appreciation** **3 cr hrs**
Instructor: Sam Claussen (Claussen-S@mssu.edu)
Introduction to theatre as a communicative and fine art emphasizing collaborative efforts of playwright, artistic director, designer, actor and crew. Students are required to have a computer with Internet access with the same requirements published for Internet courses. Students are required to see two live plays during the semester. In addition to the rental textbook, a purchase workbook is required.

Adam Fast/The Chart

Members of the local rock band Sevenstar catch some air as they reach an emotional climax while performing to a near-capacity crowd Feb. 21 at Dioko Coffee Company.

SEVENSTAR

Local rock stars share faith through personal diversity

By Melissa Dunson
Diversions Editor

Sevenstar looks, acts and sounds like a bunch of rock stars.

More than rock stars, the members of the passionate and volatile local band have been overcoming their differences for four years to get their musical message across.

The band consists of four devoted friends who just happen to also be incredible musicians.

David Barwick, 21, Joplin, Sevenstar's lead singer and guitarist, has been playing guitar for almost 10 years. Barwick never seems to stop moving — his face spastically switching emotion. His energy for life carries over to his stage performance in the form of jumping and diving around the stage sometimes to the point of falling to the floor during concerts, all without missing a chord.

"Dave's really passionate in his writing and in his life," said Nathan Getz, 19, Joplin, Sevenstar drummer. "He's fueled by everything around him."

Getz was born into a family of musicians and began playing the drums at age five. He plays passionately and is infamous among fans for breaking drumsticks during concerts and practices.

"I have a problem with breaking sticks," Getz said. "I probably go through three (sets) per concert, along with going through cymbals every six months and occasionally breaking a drum head."

Daniel Fluharty, 20, Joplin, bass player, found his first guitar in storage where it had sat for 30 years. Fluharty is tall and thin with large black-framed glasses and vintage T-shirts that make him look more like a Weezer band member. His self-proclaimed nickname is "Flu," and in high school, he ran for student body president with the slogan "Catch the Flu."

Matt Harp, 19, Springfield, electric guitar, started on his musical journey by learning to play the piano at his grandmother's house. Since that time he has become a diverse musician admired by his fellow band members.

"He's the best musician in the band," Fluharty said, "but he's also the most versatile. He went from a Metallica-cover band to our style."

The band members describe their style as "modern rock with an emotional edge." Their songs are expressive and intense, with timing that meticulously builds to an emotional climax. The members derive inspiration from various rock groups, predominantly Our Lady Peace. They focus on intensity and transitions when writing songs.

All members contribute to the songwriting process, an important fact when the band strictly adheres to only performing their own material. The subject matter ranges from depression to relationships.

"Our songs are very personal and about some kind of struggle that we're having," Getz said. "Our songs aren't always sunny because we write about the reality of our lives which isn't always sunny."

All of the members come from different musical backgrounds including indie rock and punk, with only one band they all agree on: Our Lady Peace. The various backgrounds sometimes lead to conflicts. Practices can get hostile when preparing new material, but the passionate environment means better musical output.

"We're definitely combative," Fluharty said. "But if we were all the same, we'd only have one song with eleven breaks. We have a lot of diversity."

Differing opinions carries through to the songwriting process and sarcasm sometimes runs high, but the band members deal with their differences through humor.

"First, one of us has an idea that nobody likes, then that person makes us all learn it, we all hate it, then we play it in concert and everyone hates it, and then eventually we play it enough that people forget that they hate it," Barwick said.

The band members endure the disagreements with a greater goal in mind of sharing their faith in God.

Their relationship with God always takes center stage during performances, and the members pray together before every practice and show. They decide who will pray first by each person calling out either "white, meat, cheese or wheat," until they form the layers of their "prayer sandwich."

"It's our faith," Getz said. "We want to share our hearts with people, we're not shoving it down people's throats, and we're not going to cast stones at people when we're so flawed ourselves."

The band is sometimes asked not to share its faith onstage, depending on the venue, and in those situations Barwick said their actions have to speak louder than words.

"After a concert at Karacter's, a guy came up to us, and it was apparent that we'd really made an impact on his life and all Dave said was 'we play for God,'" Getz said. "That's the whole point of us playing together. We have really big differences of opinion, but there's always stuff like that, and we can work it out."

Sevenstar's new album *Never Dark* went on sale Feb. 24, and a formal release party is planned for March at an undecided location. For more information, or to buy the album, visit the band's Web site at www.sevenstarrock.com.

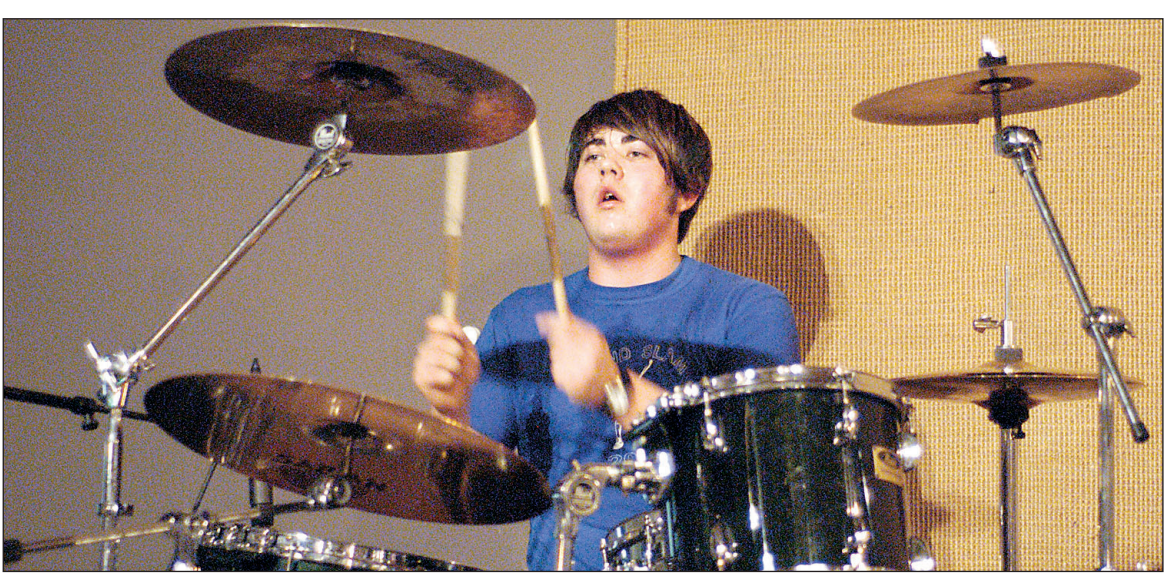
Daniel Fluharty, above, bass, books most of the band's shows. He became involved with Sevenstar after leaving another area band.

Matt Harp, above right, plays guitar during a concert Feb. 20 at a Community Recreation Center in Parsons, Kan.

Dave Barwick, right, lead singer, guitarist, is also the chief songwriter for the band. His lyrics are personal and cover subjects from depression to girls.

Nathan Getz, below, plays during a show Feb. 21 at Dioko Coffee Company. He is infamous for breaking multiple sets of drumsticks during one show.
Fluharty, inset, goes airborne during a show.

Adam Fast/The Chart



Local rock band Sevenstar is held together by more than talented musicians. The members put aside their differences of opinion to communicate their message of hope. For information, read the story.

Passion most beautiful movie ever made

Speechless. Breathless.

Never before have I left a theater without being able to say a word or even breathe.

The Passion of the Christ is the single most beautiful movie I have ever seen. From the beginning to the end it holds you. You can never look away from the screen. Even during the most violent parts of the movie where blood is being sprayed on the Roman soldiers faces from the brutal beating Jesus is receiving, you cannot look away. You can only cringe. If you try to look away, you cannot.

I left the theater shaking, crying, so emotionally drained I did not know how I was going to make it through the rest of the night. I only knew that what I saw was the greatest film about the end of Jesus' life ever made. Nothing can compare to this film.

Mel Gibson has my utmost adoration and respect for making this movie. Only a man's faith and love could produce such a powerful motion picture. Gibson has made an epic so grand that no matter what anyone says about it, positive or negative, it will never, ever prepare you for what you are going to see.

I grew up knowing the story of the passion. I was raised on it. I still was not prepared for what I was about to see. I have never really felt sorry for Judas before, but I do now.

Once the movie gets to the scene where Jesus is tied to the whipping post, the only thought in one's mind is "how can they do this?"

And then, the pain begins.

Every hit he receives, you feel. It goes straight to the gut.

This is when the tears start to form.

At the point where the nails are driven into his hands, every hammer hit feels like a ton of bricks slamming down on you.

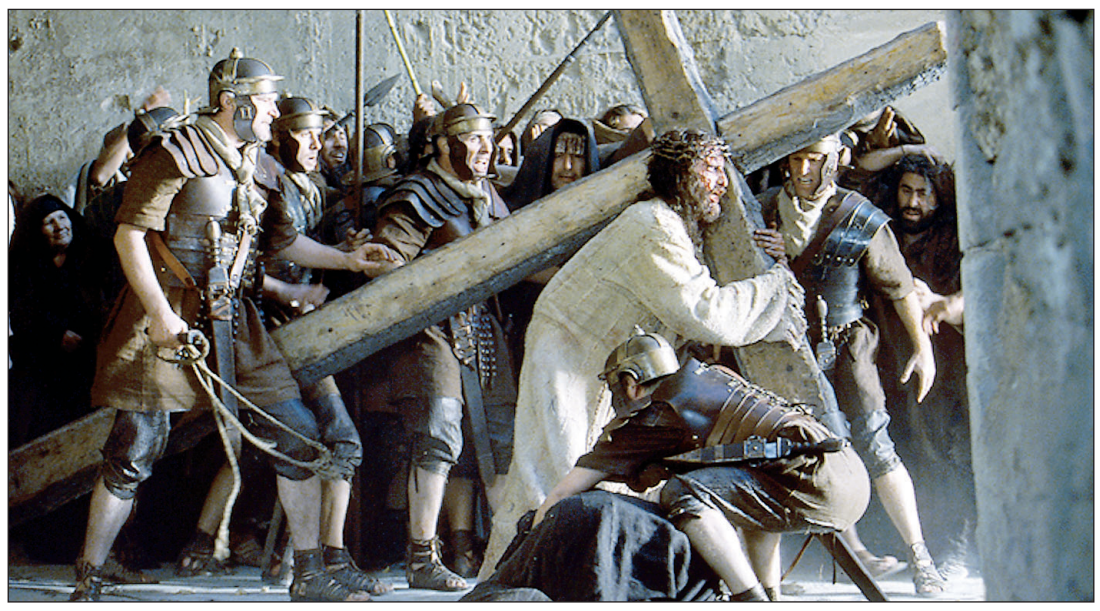
When Jesus took his last breath, I could not breathe. I only cried and attempted to breathe.

The movie does not end here. It ends with a quick scene of the resurrection and then the credits, which I sat through crying until the lights came on.

I fully recommend this movie to everyone, but take a Kleenex or two — you are going to need it.

Review Corner

PHILIP MARTIN
Executive Editor



Special to The Chart

Actor Jim Caviezel, portraying Jesus, carries a large wooden cross in a scene from *The Passion of the Christ*. Caviezel was seriously injured several times while filming the movie.

Funny Thing About Life...

DAVID HAUT
Public Forum Editor

Cruising. I don't know why people do it. I still can't figure it out. Who thinks it is fun to drive 10 miles an hour up and down a street with a radio blasting a Top 40 rap song and call the car next to you a mofo?

It's actually one of the few things from the '50s that still remains cool (to a few people, anyway).

Sure, it's a teenage way of rebelling, but against what, the ozone layer?

I found myself on Main Street on a Saturday night once. I neglected to realize that I was on Main Street on a Saturday until it was too late. I decided to see how fun this really was.

The first thing I saw was a guy in a doo rag and a wife-beater, hanging out of the car next to me, pointing down at my car and probably saying something about my mom. I passed them.

I got to Seventh Street. The stoplight there is long, meaning I had to hold my current position for a minute or two. As soon as the car behind me stopped, people all around me were changing cars and walking around. Three people ran around my car. It was like a Pringles commercial.

Here are a few things I've noticed about cruisers.

First, you can't have a muffler. If you do, make a hole in it the size of, say, a bowling ball.

Second, fill your car with as many people as you can and have them all hang out of the windows. There is a risk of decapitation, but a small price to pay for the joy of cruising.

A hat turned slightly to one side is always popular. People say it looks cool, but I think they do it so no one knows who they really are.

I always see these guys, half their body hanging out of a window, neck out, head up, lip curled on one side like Elvis, flailing their arms up and down like they're trying to fly, spouting off expletives like Jay and Silent Bob. They're obviously mad about something. You'd think at 10 miles-an-hour it would be hard to get into an accident.

So, the next time you're bored, don't go to the movies. Call all of your friends, pull off your muffler and crank up KSYN 92.5 as loud as it'll go. Who said there was nothing to do in this town?

David Haut, Public Forum Editor, writes a weekly humor column for The Chart. *His opinions are his own and don't necessarily reflect those of* The Chart *staff members.*

Philip Martin/The Chart

A crowd standing in line at Northstar 14 Theaters waits to get seats to Mel Gibson's new controversial movie *The Passion of The Christ*. The film opened Feb. 25.

Catholic campus group views controversial movie of Christ

BY DAVID HAUT
Public Forum Editor

Catholics celebrated Ash Wednesday with passion.

Eight members of Missouri Southern's Catholic Campus Ministry went to see *The Passion of the Christ* on Feb. 25, the opening day of the film. The film was directed and funded by Hollywood icon Mel Gibson. The group is just one of many groups on campus to see the film on the opening weekend.

"[Ash Wednesday] is a very important period of the year for Catholics," said Katarina Dzidic, senior psychology and French major. "We thought this would be a great way to commemorate it."

Ash Wednesday commemorates the beginning of Lent, the holy period of fasting. The 40-day fast ends on Easter Sunday.

The group first went to Mass and then to a 7:30 p.m. showing of Gibson's film. The movie has raised some controversy in the entertainment world due to its strong religious affiliation.

"We are also looking forward to this movie because it can give us some good insights and spark up some good discussion," Dzidic said, prior to seeing the film. "A big part of our meetings is to discuss our faith and our beliefs and grow from each other's experiences."

Prior to seeing the film, Dr. James Jackson, professor of biology and faculty adviser of the organization, said the group may meet to discuss the film, depending on the time and a place to meet.

"We think it will be a solidifying way to experience Lent," Jackson said. "[This film] is a good way to put the emphasis back on Lent."

Group members agree the film will not only be a great way to experience lent, but to grow in their faith.

Jackson was pleased the film was released on Ash Wednesday, an important day for Catholics.

"[The film] has become an event," he said. "Everybody's appreciation for [Christ's life] will change."

The Catholic Campus Ministry currently has about eight members, according to Jackson. The group meets on Wednesdays at St. Peters Catholic Church for prayer and Thursday nights in Room 311 of Billingsly Student Center for Mass. The organization also has two retreats per year.

For information, contact Jackson in RH-308 or at 625-9578.

Organization plans to make reality shows reality for students

BY DAVID HAUT
Pulbic Forum Editor

Members of Missouri Southern's Campus Activities Board reconvened Feb. 25 after a two-week hiatus.

Twelve students attended the hour-long meeting with discussions primarily on the topic of reality shows on campus.

Terry Levy, junior criminal justice major, headed the discussion after attending a three-day student activities conference in Cincinnati. The idea of bringing a reality show to campus was just one of many ideas Levy brought back with him.

The discussed reality shows would be a shorter, condensed version of the television shows. Ideas stemmed from "Boiling Point" to "Survivor."

The idea is to get more students involved in campus activities.

Julie Blackford, director of student activities, said she stood behind the reality show idea.

"We could do just about anything," Levy said.

The only reality show he was advised against was "The Real World," due to the co-ed nature of the show.

Blackford confirmed sumo wrestling and laser tag as some of the novelties for the spring break blitz spike-night.

CAB is also planning a skate night, proposed for March 31.

A "through-time" theme would take skaters through a different decade of music each hour. Times for the event have not yet been fully determined.

Students interested in CAB are invited to attend the weekly meetings at 2 p.m., Wednesdays in the student activities office on the second floor of the Billingsly Student Center.

Area Events

If your organization has an event you would like publicized, call Melissa Dunson at 625-9311.

27 *Broken Lizard's Club Dread, Dirty Dancing: Havana Nights* and *Twisted* open at the Northstar 14 Theaters.

The Strange concert @ 9 p.m. @ Jim's Bar and Grill in Carthage.

28 Glory Days "Live Music Cafe" @ 8 p.m @ Glory Days Music.

Everyday Value concert @ 6:30 p.m. @ The Bridge.

Count Basie Orchestra @ 8 p.m. @ Juanita K. Hammons Hall in Springfield.

29 Karaoke from 9 p.m.-1 a.m. @ Murphy's Irish Pub.

Henry Gasser art exhibit @ 1-5 p.m. @ the Springfield Art Museum.

1 BSU Joy Explosion @ 7 p.m.

2 Miss Saigon play @ 7:30 p.m. @ Juanita K. Hammons Hall in Springfield.

3 General all-ages extreme sports session @ 3 p.m. @ The Bridge.

Karaoke @ 10 p.m. @ The Green Room.

CAB meeting @ 2 p.m. @ 2nd floor Billingsly.

4 Krazy Karaoke @ 9 p.m. @ Champ's Bar and Grill

Campus Crusade for Christ @ 7:30 p.m. @ the Student Life Center.

Weird News:

All information was taken from: http://www.fark.com

Smuggled Tarantulas Repatriated

MEXICO CITY — Swiss customs officials seized 775 Mexican tarantulas smuggled into the country illegally to be sold as pets, an agent from Mexico's government environmental agency said .

The hairy spiders, a protected species, were stuffed inside plastic bags on a flight to Zurich via Frankfurt. They were repatriated to Mexico last weekend, although a third of them died on the round trip.

Designated driver loses license on purpose

NORWAY — A Norwegian was so fed up with being his girlfriend's designated driver that he lost his license on purpose. The man passed an officer at 85 mph in a 50 mph zone. It worked. The police pulled him over and gave him a speeding ticket.

The man explained his offense in court. The court praised his honesty but said it did not understand his reasoning. The court granted his wish by banning him from driving for a year and added a 14-day jail sentence.

Man sentenced for defecating on floor

SAGINAW, MICH. — A judge made sure the punishment fit the crime when he sentenced a man to clean 100 toilets at the Saginaw County Jail.

A man pleaded guilty to stealing a firearm from a home, but investigators also found human feces in the basement near the window where the burglar entered the house.

Authorities say the man defecated on the floor. In addition to the toilet scrubbing, the man was sentenced to two years' probation and to pay $389 in restitution to clean the property.

Rat kills power supply and self

NORWAY — A rat the size of a small cat cut the power for 15,000 consumers for more than two hours after walking across a transformation station's energized bars.

CHEATING:

From Page 1

León said the problem with cheating isn't just on Internet classes but on campus as well.

"Internet cheating isn't any more of a problem than on campus classes," he said.

Dr. Cristóbal Sartori, associate professor of Spanish, said when Internet courses began it was for students who couldn't attend classes on campus, but he believes things have changed.

"With all the cheating going on you would think students would be getting 100 percent," Sartori said.

Sartori said León pushed the issue for Internet courses so the University could be more competitive with other colleges and universities.

Last semester, Sartori was notified that one of his students had been cheating.

"At this point in time, I am not worried about Internet cheating because I can usually tell if a student is cheating," he said.

Dr. Larry Cebula, associate professor of history, said Internet courses are a main concern when it comes to academic dishonesty.

"Internet cheating is a big problem on this campus," Cebula said.

Cebula said he has caught two students cheating and immediately turned them in.

"If we don't police our Internet classes, Southern will get the reputation of a diploma mill," Cebula said. "There will be a huge number of students getting credit for work they didn't do."

He said if a professor sets up a class so students will get the same tests, they are begging for cheating.

Betty Baker, instructional technologist for Internet-based courses and Blackboard administrator, gives various suggestions to faculty about what to do while teaching Internet courses.

She said there is a code to use to prevent students from printing, duplicating and cut-and-pasting online class quizzes and tests.

Baker also trains instructors who are teaching Blackboard courses.

"Internet courses are a good thing," she said. "We try to minimize cheating as much as possible.

Cebula has different methods to prevent students from cheating; he gives different test questions from random test banks, students aren't allowed to print tests or see their correct answers and students are required to come to school to take the final or use a proctor.

Cebula said the University should create an honor code, which will put the students in charge of policing academic dishonesty and monitored testing centers.

"Cheating is awkward," he said. "We must not look the other way.

Like Cebula and Sartori, there are other instructor's who have found ways to ensure honesty while taking Internet courses.

David Throop, purchasing director for Missouri Southern, said there is no way of telling if a student is cheating because there is so much information out there.

Throop has also been adjunct faculty for 22 years and has been teaching Internet courses for about five years.

Throop said he tries to ensure honesty by using random questions from a test bank, timing tests and preventing students from printing quizzes.

"The heart of the institution is the instructor," Throop said.

Throop said he tries to be flexible for students who can't be in class to take the test. He said a proctor is used on occasions.

Dr. Scott Wells, head of biology department, said he also uses timed quizzes and requires students to come to campus to take a test or use a proctor.

"Point value on quizzes will not allow a student to pass a class," Wells said.

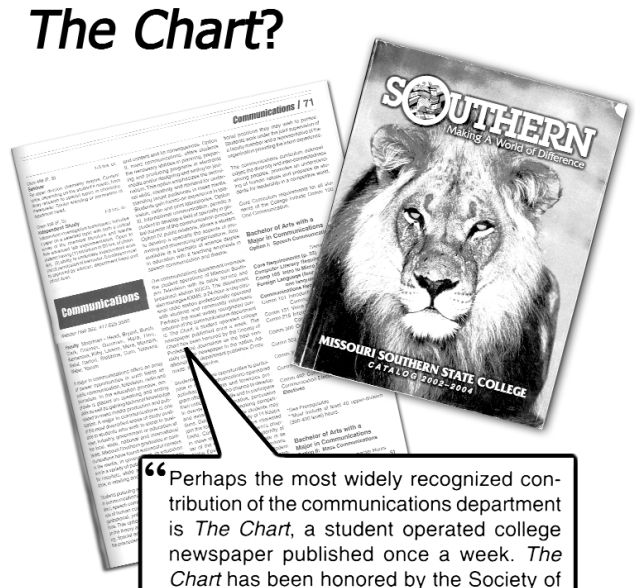
Wells said online courses are not the best way to take a class, unless it is an inconvenience to take the class on campus.

Cebula and Wells said Internet courses have some disadvantages, but above it all, Internet courses must be monitored to minimize cheating.

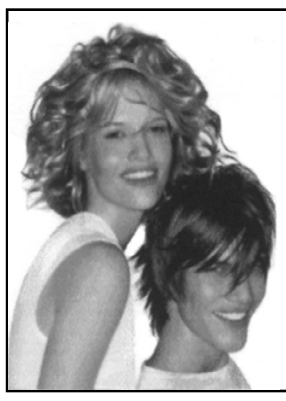
"Internet courses are the future of our college," Cebula said. "It is important that we get it right."

"The responsibility falls upon the instructor to design the course to prevent Internet cheating," Wells said.

What does the university catalog have to say about *The Chart*?



"Perhaps the most widely recognized contribution of the communications department is *The Chart*, a student operated college newspaper published once a week. *The Chart* has been honored by the Society of Professional Journalists as the best non-daily college newspaper in the nation."



Beauty On The Edge

Hair & Nail Salon
Family Haircare
Full Service Salon
Hair, Skin, Massage & Nails

Karen Skerbetz, Owner & Stylist
Timma Medley, Esthetics
Liz Brown, Stylist
Kim Huggins, Stylist
Judy Benson, Nailtech

Open 6 days a week
417-206-9155 1840 N. Range Line Joplin

Confidential & Free Services • Caring Staff
STD Testing & Treatment • Pregnancy Tests
Accurate Information on Pregnancy Options
Ultrasounds for At-Risk Women • Referrals
24-Hour Phone Line

THE CHOICE IS YOURS
CHOOSE TO KNOW

Helping you make healthy choices for life!

LIFECHOICES
Medical Clinic + Resource Center
624-8030 • 800-638-1023
www.lifechoices4states.org

Enjoy what you read?
Don't enjoy what you read?
Let us know.

chart@mssu.edu

usbank
Five Star Service Guaranteed

Member FDIC

Northpark Banking Center
105 N. Range Line, Joplin
417-623-5677
www.usbank.com

Don't forget about our student services!

Comprehensive Solutions for MSSU Employees

U.S. Bank Workplace Checking

* *No Monthly Maintenance Fees*
* *No Minimum Balance Requirement*
* *FREE Internet Banking*
* *Unlimited Check Writing*
* *1% Discount on an Installment Loan with Auto Pay***
* *10% Off a Home Loan Origination Fee up to $150 with Auto Pay***

*** Subject to Credit Approval*

after graduation, then what?

join the Peace Corps.
come to an information meeting
where you'll learn more:

TUESDAY MARCH 2, 4-6PM
BILLINGSLY STUDENT CENTER
ROOM 313

Want to interview for the Peace Corps?
Contact Jamie at 312.353.1126 or
jdiatta@peacecorps.gov for more information

MSSU
Student Delivery
Value Menu
Just $7.99
Get 1- 10" 1 Topping Pizza
(2 Pizzas with Carryout)
PLUS
Your Choice Of One Of The Following:
10" 1 Topping Pizza
Cinnamon Sticks
1/2 order Chicken Wings
Breadsticks & Sauce
2 Liter Soft Drink
Cheese Sticks & Sauce
Home of Buy 1, Get 2 FREE!
No Limit!
Buy 1, Get 2 Free With Carryout.
With Delivery It's Buy 1, Get 1 Free!
EUREKA PIZZA
782-7770
2611 N. Range Line
781-1414
2901 S. Main
Family Feast
$15.99 PLU 62
3- Lg. (14") Large Pizzas:
1 "Eureka" (Super Supreme) PLUS
2- 1 Topping Pizzas all just $15.99.
Carryout Please. 2 Pizzas W/ Free Delivery.
Add 10 Wings Just $5.99
Add Cheese Sticks & Sauce $3.49
Void W/ Other Offers. Limited Delivery Area. Drivers Carry less Than $20. Expires 2-29-04
Delivery Special $10.99 PLU 71
2 LG (14") 1 Topping Pizzas
Delivered Free
Add 10 Wings Just $5.99
Add Cheese Sticks & Sauce $3.49
Void W/ Other Offers. Limited Delivery Area. Drivers Carry less Than $20. Expires 2-29-04
Have A Party 6 Large Pizzas
$27.99 PLU 139
6 LG (14") 1-Topping Pizzas
Carryout Only. 4 Pizzas w/ Free Delivery
Or Make It 9 Lg (14")
1-Topping Pizzas for Just $41.99(plu140)
Carryout Only. 6 Pizzas w/Free Delivery
Void W/ Other Offers. Limited Delivery Area. Drivers Carry less Than $20. Expires 2-29-04
DISCOVER NOVUS
VISA
MasterCard
AMERICAN EXPRESS

Paint Yourself A Bright Future!

SPRING JOB EXPO

All Majors! All Students!

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Wednesday, March 3, 2004
Billingsly Student Center

Organizations registered to attend as of Feb. 20, 2004:

Arvest Bank
Asay Publishing Company
Barton County Memorial Hospital
Children's Mercy Hospitals & Clinics
Citizens Memorial Healthcare
City of Joplin
Cleveland Chiropractic College
Community Support Services
CoxHealth
Drury University, College of Graduate and Continuing Studies
Enterprise Rent-A-Car
Evangel University, Graduate and Professional Studies
Forest Institute of Professional Psychology
Freeman Health System
George Washington Carver National Monument
Girl Scout Council of the Ozark Area
Hastings Entertainment
Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation
Jack Henry & Associates
Leggett & Platt, Inc.
Lowe's
Mayo Clinic
Medical Employment Directory of Springfield, Inc.
Mercy Health System of Northwest Arkansas
Missouri Career Center
Missouri Rehabilitation Center
Missouri State Highway Patrol
Mix 95.1
Mt. Carmel Regional Medical Center
Nevada Regional Medical Center
Oklahoma City University Graduate School
Oklahoma City University School of Law
Oklahoma State University MBA Program
Overland Park Police Department
Oxford Healthcare
Probation and Parole
Social Security Administration
Southwest Missouri Bank
Southwest Missouri State University Graduate College
Springfield Police Department
St. John's Regional Medical Center
The Arc of the Ozarks
The Sherwin-Williams Company
The University of Health Sciences, College of Osteopathic Medicine
U. S. Air Force
U. S. Bank
U. S. Peace Corps
University of Arkansas Graduate School
University of Missouri-Columbia, Center for Math and Science Teacher Education
University of Missouri-Columbia, School of Law
University of Missouri-Columbia, Truman School of Public Affairs
Wal-Mart Internal Audit
Webb City Police Department

Sponsors in bold

Presented by:
Career Services, MSSU

STATE NEWS BRIEFS

Cottey plans events for Black History

Cottey College will be celebrating Black History Month and Women's History Month with a presentation entitled "Inspiring Hope and Possibility" 6 p.m. Wednesday at the Haidee and Allen Wild Center for the Arts.

The presentation is sponsored by Cottey College's Center for Women's Leadership.

Magazine ranks WU top 10 in research

Washington University was the subject of a front-page story of the Dec. 22 issue of *The New York Times*.

The university's ascent to one of the leading research facilities in the nation was the topic of the article.

U.S. News and World Report ranked Washington University as one of the top-10 research universities in the country, topping many Ivy League universities.

SMSU schedules clarinet, piano recital

Clarinetist Julie Heinen and pianist Shari Raynor will perform a recital at 8 p.m. Wednesday, in the Brandt Hall of Music, at Southwest Missouri State University.

The program will include, Thorkell Sigurbjornsson's four Icelandic folk songs, Libby Larsen's "Song Without Words," Gary Shocker's "Dear Diary" and Camille Saint-Saen's "Sonata, op. 167." Also on the program are Charles Villers Stanford's "Intermezzo, op. 13, no. 1," Sergel Rachmanioff's "Vocalist, op. 34, No. 14," Rezso Kokal's "Verbunkos Rapszodia" and Scott McAllister's "X Concerto."

SLU will present 'Ain't Misbehavin'

Saint Louis University will perform *Ain't Misbehavin'* at The Saint Louis University Theatre. The musical revue is based on the life and times of the legendary Thomas "Fats" Waller.

Performances will be held at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Truman Jazz Ensemble includes Abercrombie

The 36th annual Truman State University Phi Mu Alpha Jazz Festival will present internationally-acclaimed guitarist John Abercrombie to perform with the Truman Jazz Ensemble at 7 p.m. Saturday in the Baldwin Auditorium on the Truman campus.

Since graduating form Berklee College of Music in 1969, Abercrombie has performed and recorded with numerous jazz artists such as Kenny Wheeler, Joe Lovano, Mark Felman, Vince Mendoza, Marc Johnson, Michael Brecker, Peter Erksine and Gill Evans.

Abercrombie combines evolving technologies with a tradition well represented by jazz standards in his music. He also is an active clinician and teacher.

UMR sets celebration for March 8

The University of Missouri-Rolla, will have its annual St. Pat's Celebration from Monday, March 8 until Saturday, March 13.

The St. Pat's Parade will be held at 11 a.m. March 13 in downtown Rolla.

Area businesses in Rolla will be selling St. Pat sweatshirts and other novelty items for the 96th annual celebration.

UMR bookstore, University Book and Supply, Adventuretime Video Station, Beverage Mart, Dave's Barbershop, Farmer's Insurance Group, Illusions Hair Salon, Key Sport, Kroger, Pump Handle, Russell's Town and College Shop will all sell items.

Gay marriage reaches Senate

BY KARENA WELLS
State News Editor

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — "If you are saying there is no value in a man and a woman getting married and having a child, then we are in serious trouble," said Sen. Sarah Steelman (R-Rolla).

The Missouri Senate joined the rest of the nation, Feb. 24, asking the question of whether or not same-sex marriage will be allowed.

The reading of Senate Bill 097 came on the heels of the Massachusetts Supreme Court ruling allowing gay marriage and President Bush's request for an amendment to the Constitution that would outlaw same-sex marriage.

Opponents to the Senate bill wondered if it was necessary to change the Missouri Constitution, citing that if people after a period of time understand gay marriage, it would be more difficult to reverse the ruling.

Sen. Joan Bray (D-St.Louis) questioned the maker of the bill, Steelman about whether or not the bill was denying homosexuals the right to marry.

"I think it is disgusting, deplorable, and I don't know why we want to debate this right now," Bray said. "It is possible that over a short time, people will change their minds as they understand."

"It would not deny anyone the right to marry," Steelman said. "It merely defines marriage as a union between man and woman."

Steelman associated a marriage between a man and woman with values that could not be replicated elsewhere.

"I want to hear you list these values so that I can tell you how they don't just apply to a marriage between a man and woman," Bray said.

The ability to have children and the ability to create a stable, strong family were two reasons given by Steelman.

Bray said she had friends who had been involved in numerous marriages that had resulted in children born out of wedlock and time spent in divorce court.

She also said she had gay friends who had been together for 40 years. She asked who Steelman thought was a burden to society.

Bray compared the current bill to the idea of interracial marriages.

She said a few years ago many people did not approve of them, but no bill was introduced to change the Missouri Constitution. After time, people understood.

"This is not based on race, this isn't race," Steelman said, "discrimination of race is a horrible thing."

Bray asked if discrimination of sex was OK.

Steelman said the two were not comparable.

"We aren't telling the senator from St. Louis she has to marry her boyfriend," Steelman said.

"No, but we are sure telling her she can't marry her girlfriend," Bray said. "Aren't we denying homosexuals the right to marry? Can Joe marry Sam?"

Steelman said her sons' names were Joe and Sam and that not everyone could always marry whom they wanted.

"You can't marry a 12-year-old girl," Steelman said.

Special to The Chart

Sen. Joan Bray (D-St. Louis) debates the issue of gay marriage in the Senate.

Bray said the current Senate bill included no wording that would prevent someone from marrying a 12-year-old.

Sen. Gary Nodler (R-Joplin) is a co-sponsor of the bill.

"I obviously support defending the definition of marriage as being between a man and a woman," Nodler said.

House debates 'smutty' billboards in Missouri

BY KARENA WELLS
State News Editor

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — House Bills 946, 1106 and 952 concerning transportation were discussed Feb. 24. Rep. Trent Skaggs (D-North Kansas City), introduced an amendment aimed at restricting billboards for adult stores that line highways and interstates in Missouri.

"Tri-State Billboard is the only company in the state that continues to produce these things," Rep. David Pearce (R-Warrensburg) said. "The Missouri Billboard Association is good about policing most of them, but I think this is good amendment."

Rep. Curt Dougherty (D-Independence) accused Skaggs' of proposing the amendment because of his religious beliefs.

"This is not about religious beliefs, this is about tourism," Skaggs said.

He argued billboards advertising sex shops and cabarets were not something people who travel to Missouri want to be bombarded with on the highway.

Freedom of speech was what opponents of the amendment provide as proof that the billboards should stay.

"You really don't have a choice when it is right there on the highway," Skaggs said.

Karena Wells/The Chart

House Bills 946, 1106 and 952 would restrict billboards like this one on I-44.

"It is not a matter of freedom of speech, you just don't like it," Rep. Dougherty said.

Billboards of the adult nature were argued to currently be legal in the state and that many of them were not obscene in nature.

"Just because something is legal doesn't make it right," said Rep. Dennis Wood (R-Kimberling City) .

It was brought to the attention of the House by Rep. Cynthia Davis (R-O'Fallon) that many billboards advertise discounts for commercial driver's license or truck drivers.

"While we are discussing things of the smutty manner, there are a lot of weak men and when they stop to get petrol," Davis said, "They see they can get a discount at girly stores they can do something they would not otherwise. Gas up and get your fill of girly shows."

Davis said the proliferation of billboards was degrading to the men who drive through Missouri and was degrading to the state.

"Nothing will deteriorate the Missouri family faster," Davis said.

Rep. Steve Hunter (R-Joplin), an advocate for Missouri truck drivers, did not agree with Davis.

"I don't think there is a higher percentage of truck drivers than anyone else visiting these establishments," Hunter said.

"This is something going on in society that we have to debate. It is now becoming an issue."

On Feb. 25 the House voted to include the amendment in the transportation bill and will place the bill on the calendar for perfection.

Local representatives file early for re-election

BY KARENA WELLS
State News Editor

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Filing for state office began Feb. 24.

Representatives from Southwest Missouri got up early to make sure their names would be first on the Nov. 13 ballot.

Due to term limits, a representative can serve a maximum of six years, and one senator said that is not much time.

"I think our current legislators are very effective," said Sen. Gary Nodler (R-Joplin). "But they all still have work they want done. And they have only got six years to get everything accomplished because of term limits."

Rep. Marilyn Ruestman (R-Joplin) filed at 9:45 a.m. for House representative for District 131.

"I plan to continue working on Highway 71," Ruestman said.

She also plans to continue working for schools, building clean water and the poultry commission.

Bill Buening, Diamond, is Ruestman's opponent in the race for representative.

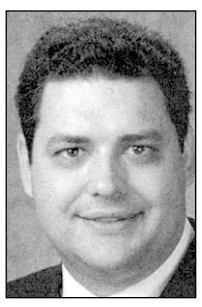
"I don't know this person, but I believe we have similar concerns," Ruestman said. "I would rather work with him than against him."

Rep. Bryan Stevenson (R-Webb City) said he wanted to make sure Southwest Missouri will be properly represented in the formula restructuring in the next 2 years.

"After the successful name change for Missouri Southern, I would like to see the completion of Z-49 and Highway 71," Stevenson said.

He plans to ensure that higher education, as well as primary and secondary education issues, are presented to the government body.

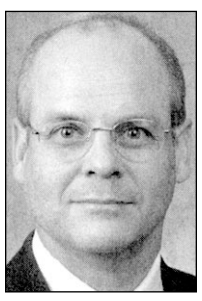
Rep. Marilyn Ruestman (R - Joplin)



Rep. Bryan Stevenson (R - Webb City)

Rep. Steve Hunter (R - Joplin)

Rep. Ron Richard (R - Joplin)



Rep. Kevin Wilson (R - Neosho)

"I think there is a finely-tuned team that works well together," Stevenson said. "I would like to see the same team return."

For the first time, Rep. Steve Hunter (R-Joplin) will face Republican opposition. Jason Fenske, Carl Junction, filed at 11:03 a.m. for House representative for District 127.

"I want to continue on trying to pass legislation that will work to better allow businesses to operate," Hunter said. "I would like to work to increase state economic growth and to just make lives better."

Rep. Ron Richard (R-Joplin) wants to continue the fight he began 30 years ago.

"I want to work for jobs, the economy, highways, the best trained work force, to get education resolved," Richard said.

He said the creation of jobs was an important cause as well as business expanding and allow teachers to teach and police to police.

"I began this battle in 1988 and nothing has changed," Richard said.

"There are a lot of things that I have started," said Rep. Kevin Wilson (R-Neosho).

"Business, education, social issues and joint resolutions are all things I want to continue."

Wilson also said he wanted to continue being a voice for Southwest Missouri.

"It has been a privilege and an honor to serve," Wilson said.

Individuals wishing to file have until March 30.

MURDER:

From Page 3

overlooked that, but that caught my eye."

Since Stuart has taken over the case, he said he has not contacted the victim's family.

"I don't want to bring up the heartache until I have some reason to contact them," he said.

Anyone with information regarding the Fastrip homicide investigation may contact Stuart at 623-3131, ext. 443. Anonymous phone calls will be accepted.

SENATE:

From Page 2

Koinonia will take a summer trip to Saltillo, Mexico, to work in the local community tentatively doing volunteer construction work. Senate approved $1,000 for the organization.

Phi Alpha Theta requested $150 to help fund student membership fees in the organization. Jennifer Ford, PAT president, spoke for the organization. Senate approved the requested amount for PAT.

Zeta Tau Alpha requested $950 to send its president to a national convention in Denver.

The group's bylaws state that a representative must go to the convention or be put on suspension by the national committee.

Sarah Lais, senior marketing and public relations major and president of ZTA, spoke for the group.

Senators discussed lower sums of money for the request because only one person was going.

However, the majority of Senate voted to approve the entire $950.

"[Senate had] good discussion on the floor," said Adam Griffin, co-adviser to Senate.

"It's always nice to see. It's a good sign that the Senate is working."

NATIONS:

From Page 3

was interesting. We role-played Israel and dealt with Palestinian issues."

Model United Nations members address issues, go to caucus and build a consensus for a resolution.

"Parliamentary procedure decides which of those resolutions will be adopted," Teverow said.

"The last day and a half [of the conference] the resolutions passed by each of the committees came before a plenary session of the General Assembly in which representatives from the four committees meet, and then they decide which of the resolutions passed by the different committees they will adopt."

Godsey said Model United Nations is a way to address international issues and meet people from other universities.

Josh Bricker, freshman secondary education major, participated in Model United Nations in the first committee of the General Assembly with the topic of environmental effects of disarmament.

"I'm very interested in Israeli politics," Bricker said. "I also thought it would be an interesting experience."

Bricker said he enjoyed the conference this year.

"I plan on going back," he said.

"The part I liked best was that the nation of Israel is an underdog and a pariah in the international arena, so it gave me a chance to let out my antagonistic side."

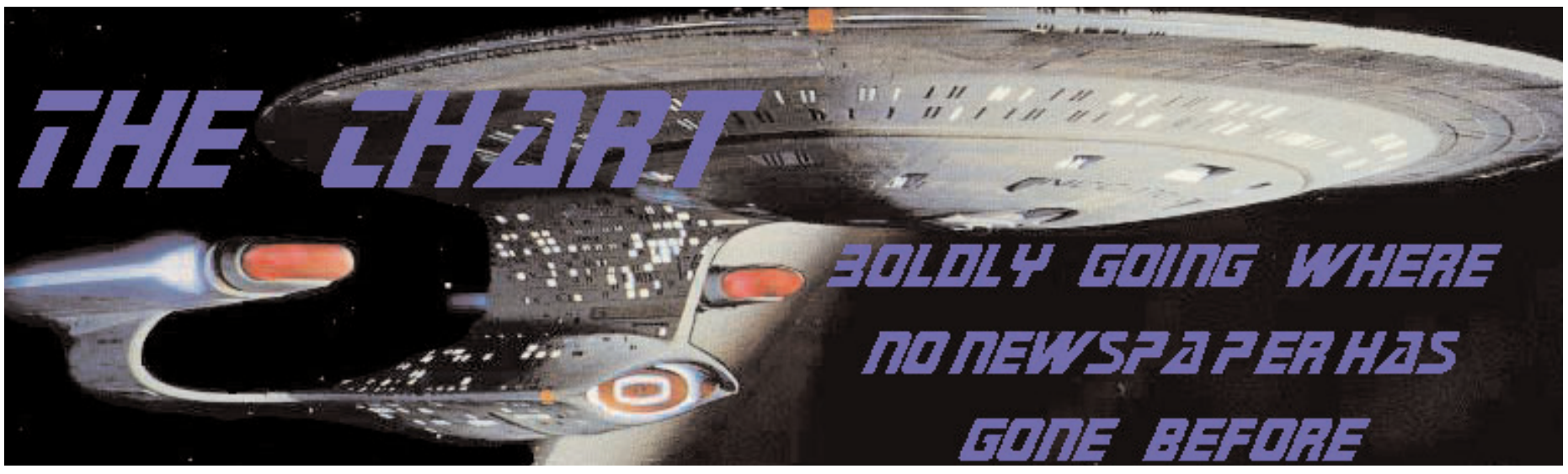
Bartender Trainees Needed
*$250 a day potential
*Local positions
1-800-293-3985
Ext. 779

SPRING BREAK
Beach and Ski Trips on sale now!
Call 1-800-SUNCHASE today!
Or visit
www.Sunchase.com

STSTRAVEL.COM
Join America's #1 Student Tour Operator
CANCUN
ACAPULCO
JAMAICA
BAHAMAS
FLORIDA
SPRING BREAK 2004
Sell Trips, Earn Cash, Go Free!
Now Hiring On-campus Reps
Call for group discounts
STS STUDENT TRAVEL SERVICES
www.ststravel.com
1-800-648-4849 / www.ststravel.com

It doesn't matter where you read The Chart...
Just pick it up!

NO DISAPPOINTMENTS
NO REGRETS
THAT'S WHAT HE WAS FOR.
Saving you cash for Spring Break, that's what we're for.
FREE Unlimited Incoming Calls
• 1000 Local Anytime Minutes for just $39.95/mo
• Includes Nationwide Long Distance
• Free Roadside Assistance for 1 month*
Ask about
• 7pm Nights & Weekends
U.S. Cellular
1-888-BUY-USCC • GETUSC.COM
* 1 month free trial available to new Roadside Assistance subscribers only. First month free, $2.95 a month thereafter. Must call to cancel. Other restrictions apply. Airtime promotion available on plans $40 and higher with a 2 year customer service agreement. Customer is responsible for all sale
taxes. Offers may expire if you change your calling plan. Free unlimited incoming calls apply only to calls received while within your local calling area. Roaming charges, fees, surcharges and taxes may apply, including a Federal and Other Regulatory Fee charge of $.55. All service agreements sub
to an early termination fee. Activation fee is $30. See store for details. Limited time offer. ©2004 U.S. Cellular Corporation



Close wins keep team in the hunt

BY RUSS HAGERMAN
Sports Editor

Cinderella traded in her glass slippers for a pair of basketball sneakers.

Having clinched a playoff berth in the Sonic/MIAA Championships at Kansas City, the Lions play for seeding in the tournament.

In their last home game of the regular season, the Lions played host to the Bearcats of Northwest Missouri State University. The Lions beat the Bearcats 60-59.

The Lions played another close one to the end. With just 1.7 seconds left in the game, Aubrie Hallman, junior guard, hit the game-winning goal.

Not only did Southern win its eighth game by six or less points, it beat another ranked team in the Bearcats.

The Bearcats were ranked third in the MIAA and 17th in the national poll.

"We didn't play very well at Northwest (Jan. 10), so it was a big motivator to play well," said Carol Koenig, sophomore guard. "We were very confident."

Maryann Mitts, head coach, said it is a positive experience for the team to be in tight situations.

"Managing the clock in the last four minutes in a basketball game is going to help us," Mitts said.

The Lions are winding down a season filled with three overtime wins and a total of 10 wins with a spread of 10 points or less.

Mitts said games like the close ones will make the Lions a better basketball team and puts them in situations that they will face in the next two weeks.

"We set our goals very high if we give 100 percent, we can beat anybody in the country," said Nicole Greninger, sophomore guard.

The MIAA tournament in Kansas City is a venue the Lions will have the opportunity to move beyond expectations.

"The whole scenario from here on out is icing on the cake, we already had a great year," Mitts said.

"We're in a position to get to the NCAA tournament, which would be an overachieving feat for this year's group."

Mitts said the team feeds off the coaches and as far as she is concerned, there is no pressure on the team.

"I don't think there is much we need to do as coaches except stay relaxed, don't over coach," Mitts said.

"Obviously the team knows what needs to be done to win basketball games."

Andy Tevis/The Chart

Aubrie Hallman, junior guard, looks down court to set up a play during the home game Feb. 21 against the Northwest Missouri State University Bearcats. Hallman scored the game-winning shot with 1.7 seconds left on the clock.

Upcoming games:
March 4-7
Sonic/MIAA Championships
Kansas City

Team improves performance at OU Invitational

BY JEREMIAH COOK
Staff Writer

On Friday and Saturday, the Missouri Southern women's indoor track and field team will compete in the MIAA championship meet after competing Feb. 21 in the University of Oklahoma Invitational in Norman.

While at OU, the Lions saw many things that made them excited for the upcoming conference meet.

"The thing that we saw this weekend, and with our sprinters in particular, was improved performances," said Patty Vavra, head coach. "Our sprint crew is starting to get a little bit faster, and our jumpers could be a factor in the conference meet."

During the meet, Mary Still, senior hurdler/sprinter, broke the Southern record for the 400-meter sprint. The old record, also held by Still, was 55.9 seconds, and she improved that mark to 55.7.

"It was a pretty big accomplishment," Still said. "It was two-tenths of a second faster than I've run before. It felt like I started the season really strong, and I thought, 'I'll be running really fast, really soon.' I was really excited. It was just a great day."

Other Lions also improved on their season bests, Feb. 21.

Sara Mueller, sophomore high jumper, jumped 5-7, a 1 3/4 inches over her previous best, and Ashley Caffey, junior distance runner, took more than eight seconds off her one-mile time, finishing the event with a time of 5 minutes, 12 seconds at OU.

While recent performances have the Lions feeling confident about their chances in the upcoming MIAA championship meet, they are not willing to say they will win the conference title.

Vavra doesn't "honestly" think the team has the "depth" needed to win the conference championship, but she believes the team will make an impact.

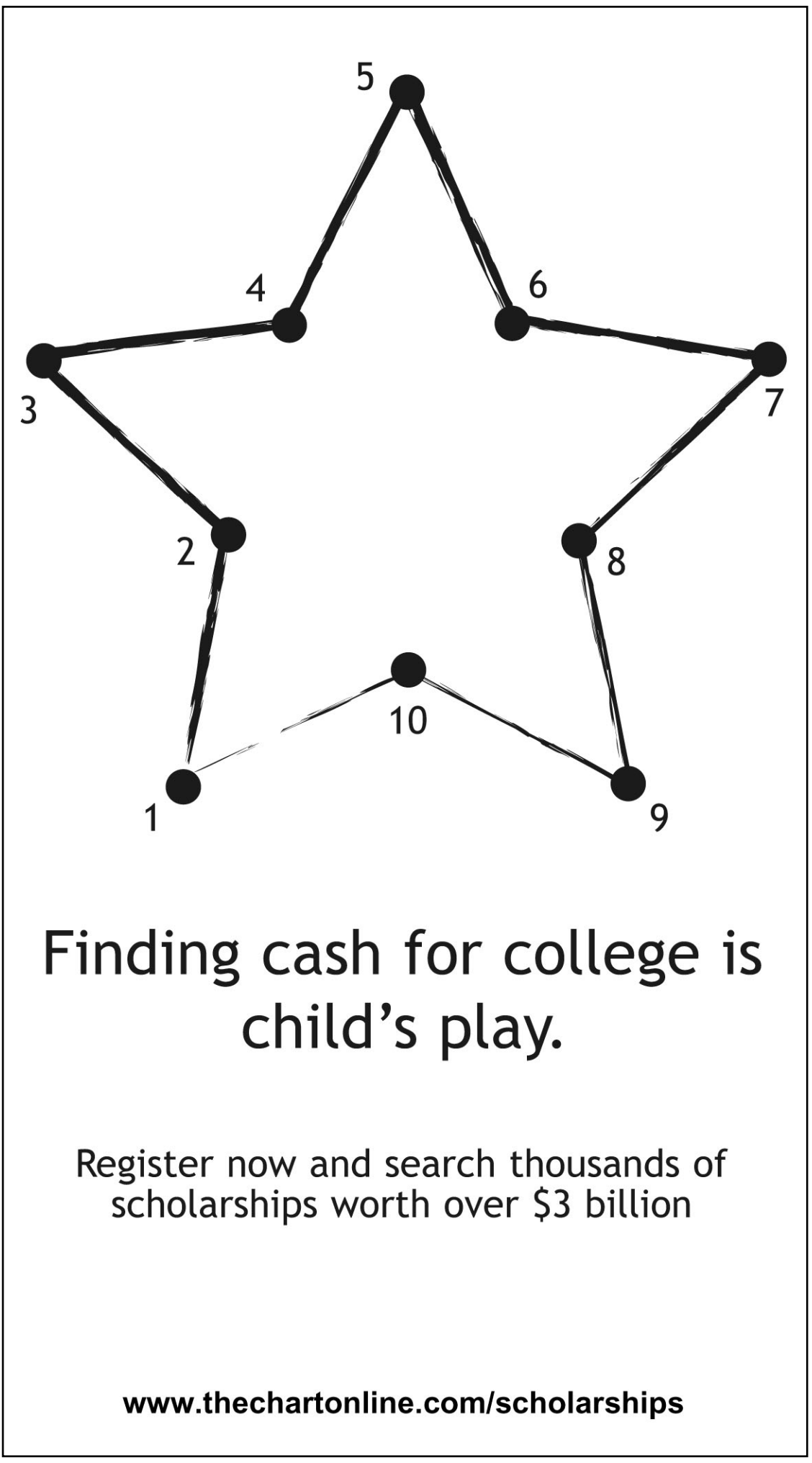
"I think that it would be a surprise," said Jen Noelken, senior distance runner. "But I don't think that you can ever rule anyone out. There's always that possibility. You have to have that confidence that you can do it, or else nothing is going to get done."

The Lions are aware they do have some advantages they haven't enjoyed in previous years.

Still believes the team has more confidence than it had at the beginning of the year.

"We've also been improving every week," she said.

"I think that we have a great team this year that has a lot of talent," Noelken said. "A lot of them are young, but there's just so much talent there that I think that we will fare well when it comes down to it."



Finding cash for college is child's play.

Register now and search thousands of scholarships worth over $3 billion

www.thechartonline.com/scholarships

Men race toward championship, inch closer to triple crown win

BY JEREMIAH COOK
Staff Writer

When the Missouri Southern men's indoor track and field team begins its competition on Friday and Saturday at the Leggett & Platt Athletic Center in the MIAA championship meet, it will be looking to win the second leg of the "conference triple crown."

Tom Rutledge, head coach, defines the triple crown as being the cross country, indoor and outdoor track and field conference titles all in one school year.

It's a goal the team is working hard for and has never achieved before in conference history.

"The other seniors and I are going to lay it all out, and do whatever it takes to win it," said Brian Lyons, senior distance runner.

The Lions competed in the University of Oklahoma Invitational Feb. 21, and several of the members surpassed their previous best performances of the season.

"It was a good meet for us," Rutledge said. "We ironed out some things with some of our younger people."

The Lions know winning the meet will be far from easy, but are also confident they have what it takes to obtain the second piece of the triple crown.

"It's going to be very competitive," Lyons said. "We have a pretty good chance to win it. We have a lot of things that we haven't had in the past. It's going to really put us to the test, but it's going to be nice to sleep in our own beds and run on our own track."

Many of the Lions have been injured throughout the season including Thomas Quaid, senior middle distance runner, who was injured in the cross country season but is planning on competing in the conference meet.

This will be the last indoor meet for the seniors, and it is one they want to win for more than sentimental reasons.

"It's very important to me," Lyons said. "This is just one more hump that we have to get over as a team in order to win the triple crown. It's never been done at our school, and it would be very nice."

Along with a potential conference title, the Lions are also looking to improve upon provisional marks. The men have several players ranked among the best in the nation. If there are any concerns with the team, it would be youth.

"The sprinters are getting there," Rutledge said. "As a coach, you wish that they were there, but you have to understand that most of them are freshmen and sophomores. You can only bring them along so fast."

Rutledge said his concern is if the young sprinters will be able to come together.

"If anybody catches us, that's where they are going to get us," he said, "and we know that, so we know our weaknesses."

Having the meet at home this year is something the Lions are looking forward to.

"Everybody is going to have to focus in order to win," Lyons said. "If we get points where we need them, especially from the sprinters, then we can be carried by the distance guys, the throwers and the poll vaulters."

Allergic to gray? Believe that all aliens are gray? Hate gray?

Come write for The Chart.
Call: 625-9311 or e-mail us at chart@mssu.edu.

Or place an ad.
Call: 625-9789 or e-mail us at chartads@mssu.edu.

Check us out online (where gray is just white).
www.thechartonline.com

LION STATS

Women's Basketball

Feb. 21 Results

NWMSU (59)

Player	fg-fga	ft-fta	tp
Poptanyoz	3-7	0-0	6
Vollertsen	5-7	2-2	12
Chalmers	3-6	0-0	6
Hatterman	2-8	5-6	9
Hogue	1-3	0-1	2
Blay	0-0	0-0	0
Wolfe	3-7	0-0	6
Friederich	6-10	0-0	16
Scherer	0-0	0-0	0
Freerksen	1-3	0-0	2

MSSU (60)

Player	fg-fga	ft-fta	tp
Wilson	8-13	2-3	18
Harrell	3-7	4-5	10
Koenig	2-8	3-4	8
Deen	3-7	2-2	10
Hallman	2-9	0-0	4
Gossard	0-0	0-0	0
Greninger	1-5	4-4	6
Adkison	0-0	0-1	0
Christiansen	1-2	2-2	4

NWMSU	31	28	— 59
MSSU	27	33	— 60

Men's Basketball

Feb. 21 Results

NWMSU (93)

Player	fg-fga	ft-fta	tp
Clarance	1-2	0-0	3
Meyer	4-7	2-2	12
Wilson	4-6	10-12	18
Parker	6-14	4-4	17
Shaw	4-7	5-6	14
Gardner	1-1	0-0	3
James	3-6	0-0	6
Weir	0-1	2-2	2
Jackson	6-9	6-9	18

MSSU (81)

Player	fg-fga	ft-fta	tp
Cavness	7-14	7-11	21
Rose	6-11	3-5	16
Redmond	1-2	3-4	5
Watts	3-6	3-3	10
Sherrel	5-7	1-1	14
Clair	1-1	0-0	2
J. Jones	1-2	2-2	5
Engelken	2-6	0-0	6
D. Jones	0-2	0-1	0
Ocasio	0-2	0-0	0
Habermehl	0-0	0-0	0
Collazo	1-1	0-0	2

NWMSU	36	57	— 93
MSSU	41	40	— 81

Border Battle!

Andy Tevis/The Chart

Deon Rose, senior forward, attempts to pass Wes Thornton of the Gorillas Feb. 25 during the game at John Lance Arena. The Lions lost the game 80-73.

Andy Tevis/The Chart

(Above) Ameer Watts, senior guard, patrols the perimeter looking for a gap. Watts scored 11 points for the Lions Feb. 25 during the game at Pittsburg State University. (Below) Carol Koenig, sophomore guard, looks for an opening during the second half of the game against PSU. Koenig scored 13 points during the game.

Lions men, women split games with Pittsburg State University

FROM STAFF REPORTS

More than 6,000 spectators awaited the battle of the border. The Lions traveled west to meet the Pittsburg State University Gorillas.

The John Lance Arena hosted the Café Del Rio Bordertown Battle, Feb. 25. In a game that was within four points with 35.8 seconds at 77-73, the Gorillas sank three of four free throws to win 80-73 over the Lions.

Hiram Ocasio, junior guard, had 21 points for the Lions.

Prior to the men's game, the women took the court. The Lions won their seventh-straight game.

The Gorillas were held scoreless in the final four minutes. Wyketha Harrell, senior forward, tied a career high with 21 points in a 63-52 Lions' win.

Andy Tevis/The Chart

Vonny Wilson takes a two-point shot Feb. 25 during the game against the Gorillas. Wilson scored 12 points.

IT'S NOT JUST A SUMMER JOB.
IT'S A PAID VACATION!
Pay Potential
$8.00/HOUR
(Employees 18 & over)
Flexible Schedules
Housing Allowance
Paid Internships
This summer, find one of the coolest jobs at one of the hottest spots in the Midwest –
WORLDS OF FUN!
MEET WITH WORLDS OF FUN RECRUITERS!
Tuesday, March 26 from 10 to 2
Missouri Southern
Student Union
Call 816.303.5010 for more info.
www.worldsoffun.com email – wofhr@worldsoffun.com
Worlds of Fun
30 SUMMERS!

hastings
Your Entertainment Superstore SM
MOST WANTED USED TITLES
We'll pay $6 IN STORE CREDIT for these titles
MUSIC CDs
We'll pay $30 IN STORE CREDIT for these titles
VIDEO GAMES
We'll pay $12 IN STORE CREDIT for these titles
VIDEO DVD
Buyback prices available for a limited time. All future buyback prices on these titles will be dependent on market conditions. Availability varies by store. See store for details on buyback requirements.

Tropical Tan
First tan is always free
(new clients only)
50% off Tanning Special
15% Student Discount
*not good w/other offers
Bring in a friend or someone that has never tanned with us before and both of you purchase a 10 tan pkg. or more of equal value and both of you will receive it at 50% off.
*Not valid with any other specials. Both persons must be present.
782-3900
705 Illinois ~ Joplin, MO 64801
MasterCard
VISA
DISCOVER
Names & Numbers

Join *The Chart* team

Enroll in COMM 220